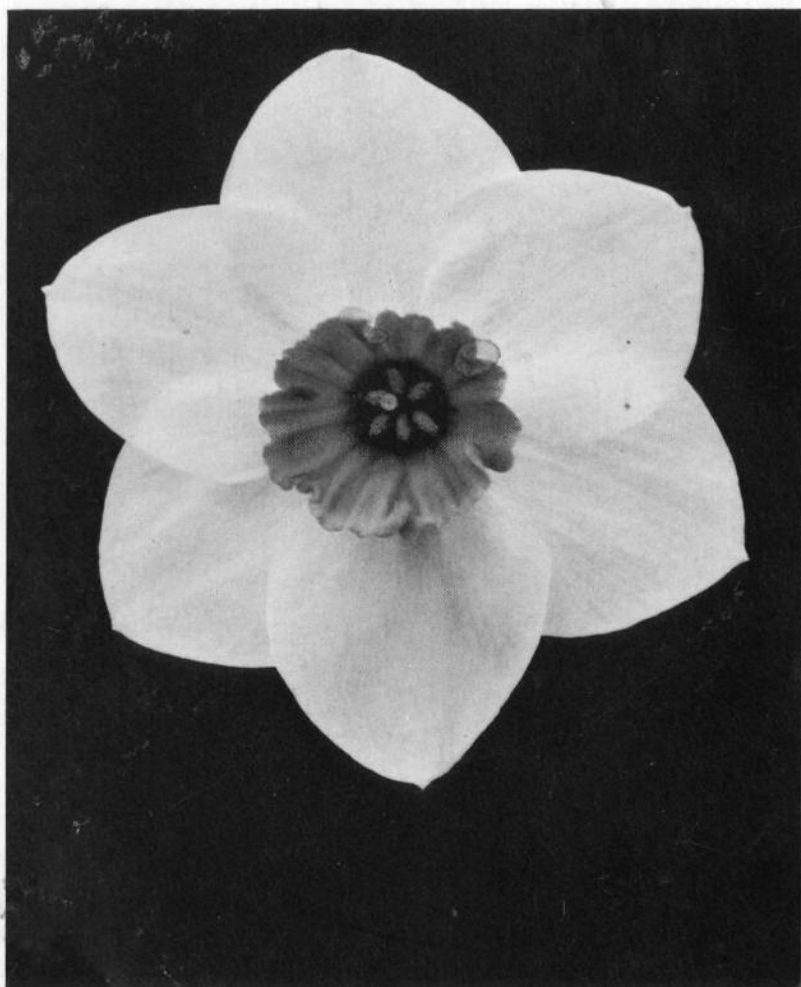


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THE

# DAFFODIL JOURNAL



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AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

# The Daffodil Journal

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Vol. 19

DECEMBER 1982

Number 2

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Articles and photographs (glossy finish) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society. Manuscripts should be typewritten double-spaced, and all material should be addressed to the Editor.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS JANUARY 5, 1983

## SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Individual .....	\$10.00 a year or \$27.50 for three years
	(Juniors, through 18 years of age, \$5.00 a year)
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Individual Contributing Member .....	\$25.00 or more a year
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## ADVERTISING RATES

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### THE COVER PHOTO

is of Rockall (Richardson, 1955), which won best bloom in show award for Clive Postles at the Sheffield Chrysanthemum Society's first daffodil show on April 25. Photograph by John Davenport.

## A FIRST SHOW

The Sheffield Chrysanthemum Society Daffodil Show, April 25, 1982

DON BARNES, *Sheffield, England*

For many years the Sheffield Chrysanthemum Society has encouraged the showing of garden produce (flowers and vegetables), not only chrysanthemums, and over the last two years members have shown some interest in daffodils. Such was the interest and enthusiasm that it was decided to hold a first daffodil show in 1982.

The Committee put their faith in me to act as Show Secretary and with help and encouragement from many people, especially the very active President (Sam Vinter), planning started in August, 1981.

In spite of the disastrous weather in April, 1981, it was decided to take the risk of holding the show in April, 1982, on the Sunday following the Harrogate Spring Show. This day would hopefully have the advantage that there are very few shows on a Sunday, and hence exhibitors might welcome the extra chance of staging blooms; also those exhibitors who had timed their blooms for Harrogate might still

have some blooms fit to show on the Sunday. It would also give us the chance to stage blooms for decorative effect by salvaging blooms from Harrogate. This would help to publicize the daffodil in an area which had been left out of daffodil activities for a number of years.

The horticultural trade, including a number of daffodil suppliers such as Dan duPlessis, Barbara Abel Smith, Brian Duncan, Broadleigh, and Bloms, offered support through prizes for various classes. The Daffodil Society made medals and diplomas available as the attraction for the top exhibitors. Tongue-in-cheek, Bill Ticknor was contacted, and we were delighted to have ADS support through the Red-White-and-Blue Ribbon and the White Ribbon.

We wanted to try a range of classes, both open and restricted to members of the Chrysanthemum Society. Eventually we limited ourselves to twenty-one classes ranging from the Chempak Sheffield Open Championship (twelve cultivars from four divisions) through to one bloom of any cultivar (restricted to novices). At least we had variety to make it look interesting for the public that we expected to visit the show. We also had a greater proportion of classes calling for three blooms staged in one vase than is usual at U.K. shows as we would only have a limited number of vases that could be used.

We had a lot of cooperation from the local council's Parks Department. This meant that the show was to be held in the local Botanical Gardens as part of the educational program which is actively pursued by the Curator (Don Williams). This event would hopefully encourage people to look at other plants in the gardens and in particular the wide range of daffodil cultivars which have been planted over many years. In fact the Daffodil Society's Northern Group had supplied daffodil cultivars in 1980 and 1981 as the beginnings of a Memorial to Fred Board who did so much for the Daffodil Society. These cultivars had been planted in a large island bed and included a number of cultivars raised by Fred Board and which were named after local places (e.g. Broomhill and Strines).

Don Williams and Arrol Winning, the Director of the Sheffield Parks Department, gave enthusiastic support to the project and we eventually ended up with a 40-foot by 20-foot tent filled with purpose-built three-tier staging which was to be covered with black material to display the blooms to best advantage.

On the Friday evening the staging looked deserted and I was getting more and more concerned that its vast expanse would not be filled with blooms.

However, on the Sunday morning staging commenced at 7:30 and exhibitors were there in force with some really super quality blooms to fill the staging. In fact life got so hectic for me as Show Secretary and advisor to Chrysanthemum Society members who had turned up with their blooms, that instead of staging my eighty blooms I could only manage to get thirty blooms into vases and on the staging. (Needless to say that none of them except my beloved American cultivars had been properly dressed.)

When the tent was cleared for judging it looked really impressive.

The Chempak Sheffield Open Championship had six magnificent entries and a very wide range of cultivars. It was a very tight contest between Ivor Fox (Leeds) and Clive Postles (Worcester) who are both exhibitors of national repute. Clive's entry was placed first and included Gold Convention (Best Bloom, Division 1), Unique (Best Bloom, Division 4) and Rockall (Best Bloom, Division 3, and overall Best Bloom). Ivor's second placed exhibit included Dailmanach (Best Bloom, Division 2) and notable examples of Balvenie, Amber Castle, and Panache. Jan Dalton, another nationally respected exhibitor, was third and included good examples of Yellow Idol and Rockall. Fourth place went to Richard Smales, a recent convert to daffodils, who included a nice bloom of Downpatrick.

The class for three vases of three blooms was also well supported. Clive Postles was again the winner with beautifully matched sets of flowers. His vase of the seedling 1-27-67 (a sister seedling to Cairn Toul that Clive purchased from John Lea in 1977 and which is remarkably consistent) was close to perfection and won the ADS White Ribbon as the Best Vase of three blooms in the Show. Jan Dalton was second with Newcastle being his best vase, and in third place was Ivor Fox with a fine vase of Misty Glen in his set.



Lea 1-27-67, Best Vase of Three

JOHN DAVENPORT

The remaining collection classes called for their three blooms to be staged in one vase. The class for one bloom from each of the Divisions 1, 2 and 3 looked delightful. Doctor Hugh, Gold Convention, and Misty Glen made an impressive set of blooms and gained the first prize for Clive Postles; however, each of the other six entries was worthy of a place on any showbench. Three blooms selected from Divisions 5, 6, 7 and/or 8 had some delightful entries and the class was well won by Jan Dalton's vase of Liberty Bells, Silver Chimes, and Grand Monarque.

The class calling for three distinct cultivars with pink in the corona (again in one vase) created a lot of interest from the public who had the chance to see what they regard as novelties. The class was well supported with seven entries and there were fourteen different cultivars to show the wide range of pinks now available. Highland Wedding, Passionale, and Rainbow shown by Jan Dalton just took first place from Ivor Fox's set which included another fine bloom of Dailmanach.

The class for the ADS Red-White-and-Blue Ribbon also called for the five stems to be staged in one vase. The class created a lot of interest and a number of exhibitors had, perhaps for the first time, realized that they do grow American-raised cultivars. The five entries were of a good standard and I think that I was extremely lucky that my entry was placed first with Spun Honey and Seraph being very good.

The open single bloom classes were well supported, with the class for one bloom from Division 2 being particularly well contested. Clive Postles's Misty Glen was only just first from a good Danes Balk shown by Jack Heeles who is continuing to make significant progress as an exhibitor. The Division 4 class was a contest between three good blooms of Unique and was a further demonstration of its remarkable ability to produce show quality blooms. The order was Clive Postles, Jan Dalton, and Ivor Fox.

There was also good support for the classes restricted to members of the Chrysanthemum Society. Although all the classes were restricted to cultivars that could be purchased for less than one pound (approximately \$1.80) there were some very reliable and interesting cultivars used by the exhibitors. The main honors went to Arrol Winning (four firsts) and Sam Vinter (best vase of three blooms in the section) with the other awards being shared by a number of members.

On the day we were very fortunate. The sun shone for the whole day and because of some very good publicity on the local radio station the public turned up in large numbers throughout the day. In fact the whole day was so popular that people were queuing to get into the tent to see the flowers. To many people it was their first experience of modern exhibition daffodils and they found it fascinating.

However, without the support of all of the exhibitors who had brought some really super flowers to Sheffield the show could not have taken place. They all must be thanked for their support.

It was hard work but seeing the delight of the visitors to the show made all of the effort seem worthwhile and in a small way it has certainly brought the daffodil to the attention of many people who had previously thought that all daffodils are yellow.

The local newspaper carried an article about the show with the headline "Daft about Daffs." Perhaps I am, but it is nice to know that I am not alone and that so many people, including the ADS, were prepared to contribute towards making our first show such a success.

## BULLETIN BOARD

### CALL OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the American Daffodil Society, Incorporated, will be held on Thursday, April 7, 1983, at the Fort Magruder Inn, Williamsburg, Virginia, for the following purposes:

- 1) for the election of officers and directors as provided by the By-Laws
- 2) to take action and transact any other business which may properly and lawfully come before the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors  
Kathryn S. Andersen, Secretary

### PHOTOGRAPHY CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

At the fall Board meeting in Minneapolis, Mrs. Kelly Shryoc, Fort Worth, Texas, was appointed chairman of the Photography Committee. All correspondence concerning slide programs should be addressed to her at 2933 Owenwood Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76109.

## JUDGING SCHOOLS

ADS Juding School I will be held on March 19, 1983, in Hernando, Mississippi. For further information contact Miss Leslie Anderson, Rt. 3, 2302 Byhalia Rd., Hernando, MS 38632.

ADS Juding School III will be held in Conway, Arkansas, on March 25, 1983. Information about the course registration may be obtained from Mrs. Volta Anders, 1628 Maul Road N.W., Camden, AR 71701. Prospective judges may take Course III as their first course if desired.

A refresher course is scheduled to be held at the ADS convention in Williamsburg in April, 1983. For information contact Mrs. Raymond W. Lewis, P.O. Box 192, North, VA 23128, who will collect an appropriate fee from those taking the refresher for credit.

The *Handbook for Growing, Exhibiting, and Judging Daffodils* is the text for all courses.

—MRS. MERTON YERGER, *Chairman, Judging Schools*

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION

(Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code.)

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—MARY LOUISE GRIPSHOVER

## CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

Please change the color coding on the following cultivars in *DTS&G*.

St. Agnes from 8 W-W to 8 W-O

Golden Amber from 2 Y-ORR to 2 Y-O

Crown Royalist from 2 W-YOO to 2 W-YYO

A candidate for the Approved List of Miniatures is Wag-The-Chief registered by Mrs. M.S. Yerger. Its color code is 9 W-GYR.

Will those who grow Lynette Sholl (3 W-OOR) and Mrs. David Calvert (3 W-GRR) let me know how they bloom for them.

I wish to thank all the members who have corresponded with me regarding classification. It is only with your help that the *Data Bank* and *DTS&G* can be corrected.

AMY COLE ANTHONY, *Classification Chairman*

## COMING EVENTS

April 7-9, 1983	ADS Convention, Williamsburg, Virginia
April 2-10, 1983	Daffodil Festival, Fiftieth Year, Puyallup Valley, Washington
April 9, 1983	Grand Floral Street Parade, Tacoma-Puyallup-Summer, Washington
April 10, 1983	Marine Parade, Tacoma, Washington
April 19-20, 1983	RHS Daffodil Show, London, England
April 26 or 27, 1983	Ballymena Show, Northern Ireland
April 28-30, 1983	Daffodil Show, Harrogate, England
April 30, 1983	Omagh Show, Northern Ireland
October 1, 1983	ADS Fall Board Meeting, Paducah, Kentucky
April 5-7, 1984	ADS Convention, Portland, Oregon
September, 1984	Third World Daffodil Convention, Hamilton, New Zealand

## ADVANCE NOTICE

The American Daffodil Society (ADS) has available a limited number of one-year grants to promote research on the biology of *Narcissus* and to advance cultural techniques of that group of plants. Preference will be given to pilot projects that will allow the recipient to apply to other agencies for additional funding or student projects that can be accomplished within a short period of time. Other proposals will also be entertained. The amount of money available per grant is less than \$600.

The proposal should contain a summary page that describes the project, in less than one-half page, in terms understandable by the general layman. A budget page should also be submitted. The name, rank, and address of person in the institution to whom funds should be sent must be added to the summary page.

The proposal itself should be brief and address:

1. the problem to be investigated
2. methods to be applied
3. controls
4. how data will be analyzed
5. how this study will advance the biology or horticulture of *Narcissus*.

Proposals should be typed on one side of 8½" x 11" bond and submitted in triplicate. Proposals should be postmarked no later than March 1, 1983, and addressed to Prof. H. Koopowitz, UCI Arboretum, Biological Sciences, University of California, Irvine, CA 92717. Successful applicants will be informed by July 15 for funding to start September 1.

## A SOURCE FOR MINIATURES?

Mr. James Wells has just returned from a bulb gathering expedition to Britain with a substantial collection of Blanchard bulbs—hybrids and species—and will report on his trip and his future plans in the March issue. He has been asked to serve as liason between Mr. Blanchard and U.S. miniature enthusiasts in hopes of making the Blanchard bulbs available on a limited basis. Sound intriguing? Anyone interested should contact Mr. Wells at 470 Nut Swamp Rd., Red Bank, New Jersey 07701.



## REMINDER

With show season approaching, judges are reminded that distinction is *not* a quality to be considered when judging seedlings for the Rose and Miniature Rose Ribbons or for the Grant and Amy Mitsch Trophy or the John and Betty Larus Award. They need not be improvements over cultivars already in commerce. The only requirement is that they score at least 90 points. Sometimes we judges tend to think that the top awards must be *really* outstanding, but again, the requirement is 90 points. As the *Handbook for Growing, Exhibiting, and Judging Daffodils* says, "Experience, knowledge, courage, tact and a sense of fairness to the exhibitor and to other judges are all important qualities of a good judge." [Emphasis added] Maybe we all need to be reminded of that every now and then.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This is the second issue of the *Journal* being printed—for economic reasons—by our new printer. You may notice two kinds of type, as we are using some copy set by our previous printer as well. Hopefully this will all be used in this issue.

A current roster is also printed in this issue—placed in the center so those who wish may remove it. The Board voted to include the roster in the *Journal* rather than issue a separate roster—again as an economy measure.

This issue also marks the official debut of Frances Armstrong, Rt. 5, Box 26, Covington, VA 24426, as author of the "Beginners' Corner" column. Anyone with questions should send them to her—I know she'll get the answers for you.

This seems as good a place as any to reiterate that all members are entitled to a copy of the *Journal* in good condition. If you receive a bad or damaged copy, write the Executive Director for a replacement, as all extra copies are forwarded to him after I complete the bulk mailing.

## SANTA CLAUS IS COMING!

If the jolly old man needs an assist from you, look at the back page of this *Journal*. The only new item is the Royal Horticultural Society's Yearbook, *Daffodils, 1982-83*. This famous annual publication is sort of the "horse's mouth" in telling of daffodil news. It has a worldwide coverage of daffodil events but its information is largely that of *Narcissus* in the British Isles. That is reasonable enough as that is where Brian Duncan and John Lea and many others, up and coming, are doing great things with daffodils. The price remains the same this year at \$5.00. The Executive Director has been informed that he should soon have them in hand.

For those of you who are new members, we have some remarkable "old" items for sale. Chief of these is the superb *Daffodil Handbook* prepared by the American Daffodil Society, published by the American Horticultural Society, and sold, now, only by our Society. The stock is dwindling. There is less than one box left of the hardback, bound, copies. When they are gone, only occasional second hand copies or paper back copies (of which we have plenty) will be available. The bound copies now sell for \$8.00. They are going, going, ----!

A neat gift, for a man or a woman, is the beautiful ADS pin designed by Marie Bozievich. It is bound to please.

The Executive Director will try to play Santa and send out the gifts by return mail if at all possible.

—WILLIAM O. TICKNOR

## ADDITIONAL SHOW AWARDS

Several awards were inadvertently omitted from the report of the 1982 daffodil shows which appeared in the September issue of the *Journal*. The list of Silver Ribbon winners should have included the name of Peggy Macneale, who won her ribbon at the Cincinnati show; and the summary of Purple Ribbon winners should have made mention of the fact that Meg Yerger won that award with a collection of poets at the Wilmington show. Her collection included *Cantabile*, *Campion*, *Chesterton*, *Bon Bon*, and *Cantata*. Meg's Miniature Rose Ribbons went to sister Seedlings—75H-2-1 in Baltimore and 75H-1-1 in Wilmington.

At the Illinois State Show in Eldorado, Mrs. Clyde Cox was the winner of the Gold Ribbon with *Charity May*; the White Ribbon with *Bethany*; the R-W-B; the *Lavender*; and the Purple Ribbon with a collection from Division 6. Mrs. Glen Sands won the Miniature White Ribbon, Glen Sands won the Silver Ribbon, and Zane Sands won the Junior Award with *Tudor Minstrel*.

We regret the omissions, and offer our apologies to the winners.

## WHERE CAN I GET. . . ?

Narcissus perfume

Bill Welch, Garzas Road,  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

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## 1983 DAFFODIL SHOW DATES

MRS. HUBERT BOURNE, *Awards Chairman*

The following is an incomplete list of show dates. If you desire your show to be listed in the March *Journal* please send the information to the Awards Chairman, 1052 Shadyhill Dr., Columbus, OH 43221, by January 1, 1983.

March 5-6—Corona del Mar, California. Southern California Daffodil Society and the Sherman Foundation at the Sherman Gardens, 2647 East Pacific Coast Hwy. Information: Miss Helen Grier, 4671 Palm Ave., Yorba Linda, CA 92686; or Mrs. Nancy Cameron, 410 S. Paseo Estrella, Anaheim Hills, CA 92807.

March 12—Clinton, Mississippi. Central Mississippi Daffodil Society at the Vesper Room, B. C. Rogers Student Center, Mississippi College. Information: Dr. Ted Snazelle, 418 McDonald Drive, Clinton, MS 39056.

March 12-13—Ross, California. Pacific Regional. Northern California Daffodil Society at the Marin Art and Garden Center, Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Information: Mrs. Joseph Allison, 130 Bryce Canyon Road, San Rafael, CA 94903.

March 18-19—Dallas, Texas. Texas Daffodil Society at the Dallas Civic Garden Center. Information: Mrs. Kelly Shryoc, 2933 Owenwood Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109.

March 19-20—Fortuna, California. The Fortuna Garden Club at the Fortuna Monday Club House, Sixth and Main Sts. Information: Mrs. Christine Kemp, P.O. Box 212, Fortuna, CA 95540.

- March 19-20—LaCanada, California. Southern California Daffodil Society at the Descanso Gardens, 1419 Descanso Dr. Information: Jay Pengra, 954 St. Katherine Dr., Flintridge, CA 91011.
- March 22-23—Hot Springs, Arkansas. Arkansas State Show. Arkansas Daffodil Society at the Arlington Hotel. Information: Mrs. Jesse Cox, 228 Daffodil Lane, Hot Springs, AR 71913.
- March 26-27—Chapel Hill, North Carolina. North Carolina State Show. The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Council of Garden Clubs and the North Carolina Botanical Garden in the Totten Bldg. of the North Carolina Botanical Garden. Information: Mrs. Everett Wilson, Tenney Circle, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.
- April 2—Princess Anne, Maryland. Somerset County Garden Club at the Peninsula Bank of Princess Anne. Information: Mrs. Ralph E. French, Route 1, Box 220, Princess Anne, MD 21853.
- April 2-3—Hernando, Mississippi. Mississippi State Show. The Garden Study Club of Hernando at the National Guard Armory, McCracken Road. Information: Mrs. Edward B. Entrikin, 3065 Holly Springs Road, Hernando, MS 38632.
- April 2-3—Gloucester, Virginia. Garden Club of Gloucester at the Gloucester Intermediate School, Route #17. Information: Mrs. William Masek, Jr., Box 947, Gloucester, VA 23061.
- April 7-8—Williamsburg, Virginia. National Show. Tidewater Virginia Daffodil Society at the Fort Magruder Inn and Conference Center. Information: Mr. & Mrs. H. de Shields Henley, 115 Conifer Road, Newport News, VA 23606.
- April 14—Chillicothe, Ohio. Adena Daffodil Society at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Information: Mrs. Betty Beery, 2604 Norman Hill Road, Frankfort, OH 45628.
- April 15—Scottsburg, Indiana. Indiana Daffodil Growers South at the Catholic Church Parish Hall. Information: Mrs. Verne Trueblood, RFD 3, Box 187A, Scottsburg, IN 47170.
- April 16-17—Dayton, Ohio. Midwest Regional. Southwestern Ohio Daffodil Society at the Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Seibenthaler Avenue. Information: Mrs. Bette Warner, 106 Beechwood Avenue, Brookville, OH 45309.
- April 16-17—Edgewater, Maryland. London Town Public House and Gardens at the London Town Public House and Gardens. Information: Mrs. R. Gamble Mann, P.O. Box 176, Edgewater, MD 21037.
- April 16-17—Washington, D.C. Washington Daffodil Society at the National Arboretum. Information: Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr., 5031 Reno Road, Washington, DC 20008.

- April 20-21—Baltimore, Maryland. Maryland Daffodil Society at the Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church of Woodbrook, Charles and Woodbrook Lane. Information: Nancy H. Howard, 309 Chattolane Hill, Owings Mills, MD 2117.
- April 21—Indianapolis, Indiana. Indiana Daffodil Society at the Meridian Street United Methodist Church, 5500 N. Meridian Street. Information: Mrs. Charles Moulin, 5662 Broadway, Indianapolis, IN 46220.
- April 22—Wilmington, Delaware. Delaware State Show. Delaware Daffodil Society at the St. Albans Episcopal Church, 913 Wilson Road. Information: W.R. Mackinney, 535 Woodhaven Road, West Chester, PA 19380.
- April 23-24—Columbus, Ohio. Ohio State Show. Central Ohio Daffodil Society at the Upper Arlington Municipal Services Bldg., 3200 Tremont Road. Information: Mrs. Hubert Bourne, 1052 Shadyhill Drive, Columbus, OH 43221.
- April 25-26—Nantucket, Massachusetts. Nantucket Garden Club. Information: Mrs. Earle Macausland, P.O. Box 298, Nantucket, MA 02554.
- April 26-27—Cleveland, Ohio. Western Reserve Daffodil Society at the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, 11030 East Blvd. Information: Wells Knierim, 31090 Providence Road, Cleveland, OH 44124.
- April 26-27—Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania State Show. Chambersburg Garden Club at the Recreation Center, South Third Street. Information: Mrs. Owen Hartman, 105 Farmington Road, Chambersburg, PA 17201.
- April 27-28—Downingtown, Pennsylvania. Garden Class of the GFWC Woman's Club of Downingtown, Woman's Club House, Manor Avenue. Information: Mrs. Theodore F. Merkel, 69 Santillo Way, Downingtown, PA 19335.
- April 30—Rumson, New Jersey. Northeast Regional. New Jersey Daffodil Society. Information: Mrs. John Miller, 558 Ridge Road, Fair Haven, NJ 07701.
- April 30—Akron, Ohio. Northeastern Ohio Daffodil Society at the Rolling Acres Shopping Mall, 2400 Romig Avenue. Information: Jack Ward, 1743 Lafayette Circle, Stow, OH 44224.
- April 30—Mansfield, Ohio. Kingwood Daffodil Society at Kingwood Center, 900 Park Avenue West. Information: Charles Applegate, c/o Kingwood Center, 900 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH 44906.
- May 14-15—Minneapolis, Minnesota. Central Regional. Daffodil Society of Minnesota. Information: Mrs. Linda Karnstedt, 1790 Richard Circle, W. St. Paul, MN 55118.

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Need a program for your garden club? Rent an ADS slide program.

## THE EARLY DAFFODIL GARDEN

ELIZABETH T. CAPEN, *Boonton, New Jersey*  
*Photos by the Author*

### THE BIG SIXES

As you enjoy, count, encourage, perhaps cross the very earliest, one day, a bit warmer, the first Big Six will open, and you will know you are launched on the next phase of daffodil gardening, dominated by that marvelous group, sired by the little one, once called "the clown of the daffodil world" among other epithets, such as "an absurdity which will never be found to exist." These earlier writers refer, of course, to the little *N. cyclamineus*, lost for 250 years, and, fortunately for all of us, rediscovered on a Portugese riverbank in 1885.

As its genes seem to crave both coolness and moisture, it is a pet of ours. As with *minimus* [*N. asturiensis*], we plant its progeny south of a rock to hurry them along. With them, we sometimes use *Puschkinia scilloides libanotica*, the clearest blue of the several minor bulbs that help to turn just a clump of daffodils into a little landscape scene.

When we needed a place to assemble a collection of the best of the sixes, we found a southern slope, backed by a large gneissic accidental that added its reflective warmth. We had already used the base of this big rock to give us our earliest galanthus (snowdrops), and we had framed the area, which was under some oaks, with several trees and shrubs, to protect from northern blasts.

We have tried a great many of the sixes—in fact, all we could find, but I shall name only those that have been consistently satisfactory here for many years.



February Gold and *Puschkinia scilloides libanotica*

First must come February Gold. I had been told that February Gold had been hybridized by Jan deGraaff, when a little boy in Holland. Some of us remember Jan, not only as an important wholesaler and originator of daffodils, but as a valued member of early ADS Boards, on which he served as Commercial Chairman. I did not want to spoil a good story by over-verification, but I checked with Jan. He admitted tagging behind—possibly helping somewhat—Mr. J. van der Wilden, the “chef de cultures” of the deGraaff establishment, but he refused to take credit for any of the many daffodils this firm launched.

Still February Gold tops its group, as the one most widely disseminated. We have enjoyed it in New Jersey, and also in Connecticut and on Pennobscott Bay, Maine, where it is part of our Daffodil Day at the end of May, along with everything to late poets.

I made one terrible mistake one year with February Gold, and, as this could happen to any landscaper with any daffodil, I shall tell you of it now. Once, wanting to move an area ahead quickly, I bought from Jan one hundred February Gold. Parsimoniously, I split every double-nosed bulb in two. Disaster! I quickly learned what I am sure all of you know: Never force a double-nosed daffodil bulb in two—let it drop apart. Sometimes, you may get away with it. I did not.

A few other yellows have been continuing delight. Classic Charity May is always reliable; Garden Princess has earned its reputation as a long bloomer; Willet, a strong grower here, actually once went Best-in-Show for Dick Kersten, New Jersey's top exhibitor. It is hard to beat these four.

Among the group of yellow sixes, we have planted many *Scilla siberica* Spring Beauty. This one is ultramarine, and as a sterile hybrid, it will bloom for several weeks and last for many years.

However, once more there has been an identity problem. Recent purchases have included not only different species, but even different genera.



Willet and *Scilla siberica* Spring Beauty

There are many scillas, valuable to the spring garden, from the very early *Scilla siberica* in variety to the very late *Scilla campanulata* and the even later—mid-summer—*S. scilloides*. All who have a mole-mice problem will relish them, for their identification with the rodent-killer, red squill.

With this feature in mind, its rodent-killing potential, a few years ago we planned a whole series of scilla-muscari pairs, hoping the rodent-killing squill would protect the vulnerable muscari. I cannot say that this plan, which quite frankly intrigued me, ever came off. Our resident rodents who had already been proved immune to arsenic when we tried to inoculate tulips, seemed equally resistant to the posion of the squills.

While the sixes are dominated by yellows, we should not want to miss the others. Of the white/yellows, Dove Wings is still our favorite.

We cannot agree with those who consider Jenny the third great from the brush of Mr. Coleman. Jenny has always been temperamental here, while its sibling, the illegitimate The Knave, is strong. In London, in 1980, I asked Mr. Coleman if he would not make an honest child of this one, The Knave. As he had no longer any stock, I promised to send him some. Sadly, not enough time was left him. Is there no way such daffodils as this, and a few others, can be legitimated?

New colors are coming to this group. One of the prettiest is Kate Reade's pink and white Foundling. This is so popular, as a guaranteed winner in shows—from London to Podunk—that its price stays up, and as it increases well, Jack loves to calculate our assets by counting our blooms. As grown here, I have a reservation. It has been blooming in the foliage—of no concern to exhibitors, but disasterous in the landscape. I hope it will outgrow this habit.

Grant Mitsch is giving us red/yellows. Jetfire began a parade, brilliant and floriferous, and his Itzim, introduced by Brian Duncan last year, is very bright and probably a miniature. A concept seems to prevail that only old proven varieties should be used for landscaping. There really is no reason why a little spot in a corner cannot provide just as healthy a place for a "novelty" as anyone's "show beds"—and a much prettier one.

## MINIATURE HYBRIDS

With the Big Sixes, the early miniature hybrids arrive. We find that few people are indifferent to miniatures. Fanciers divide into those who adore them and the ones who consider them strictly for the tea party crowd. Some grow them in sterile little rows, considering them solely as raw material for more ribbons and silver. To find a suitable place for miniatures in the landscape requires obeisance to the demands of scale which I hope to explore later.

We were regular customers of Mr. Gray long before I bought my first miniature hybrids. He offered the best selection of species and the largest number of hybrids of Divisions 5 through 9 then available, and I like the variation of form. I could never visualize a suitable place for miniature hybrids here, either in the borders about the house or in the taming of "the hill."

Then we, with daughter Betsey on her sixteenth birthday, visited Charlie Meehan on our return from the Atlanta Convention of 1958. Charlie was not only the formulator of our original Symposium, but a fancier and hybridizer of miniatures. Betsey, always a pushover for tiny plants, was entranced by the little pots of miniatures Charlie had tucked here and there under hedges. So, I bought my first hybrid miniatures, potted in clay pots, and sunk in a row in the vegetable garden. The winter of '58-'59 was not our kindest. I harvested chards and the knowledge that north of the Mason-Dixon line, one sinks pots only to invite disaster.

At Betsey's behest, I kept trying to find a way to fit these little ones effectively into a garden of acres. Obviously, they had to have a place of their own. At Nashville, I showed a picture of a clump among a few rocks. With no measure at hand, no one could have known if this showed a miniature or a standard daffodil. Is not this what miniatures are all about?—little daffodils for little places—not tiny flowers on tall stems, fit only to be cut down and displayed in a test tube?

I am not alone in considering that small flowers should grow with short stems. Mr. Gray does not consider *N. jonquilla* a miniature. Mrs. Watrous urges that miniature hybridizers use *N. rupicola*, not *N. jonquilla*, when breeding for miniatures. Perhaps miniatures, as are some seedlings, should be shown only cut to the base.

To landscape with miniatures, I have found you can use only those truly in scale, as your entire plant is your decorating element.

I mentioned using Little Beauty to bring an early bit of color to an area featuring the tazettas, blooming so much later. So, we have used other miniatures, when I have grown to quantity, to edge plantings. I have used Bobbysoxer in front of a lot of 2a's; Goldsithney before a patch of Geranium; Kehelland, Stafford, and Sun Disc are among those we have grown to hundreds and provide edging, sometimes complementing, sometimes blending with the larger ones behind.

Our first try to make an area in the landscape that featured miniatures was in what we call "The Little Arena," where we have gathered dwarf versions of common spring shrubs and the earliest hemerocallis. We tried to make this also a "late, late" daf display, and to keep in scale we used the miniature white vinca, Miss Jekyll, as ground cover. While this area harbors some nice primulas, we have not found it suitable for miniature daffodils—probably not enough sun.

Anyone with a rock garden needs no reminder that miniature dafs are a natural here. However, care must be taken that their ripening foliage will not spoil a later picture. As many rare ferns are late to unfold, we put small clumps of miniatures about their bases. Another trick I have learned is not to put the little dafs at the edge of paths, where, at first, they seem to belong. Rather, find spots five to fifteen feet away from paths. Here, among such as late-appearing ostrich fern (*Matteuccia Struthiopteris*) or the showy Japanese variegated polygonatum or some of the tall Goldie or other dryopteris, bright spots of miniatures add much to the spring picture, quietly subsiding at the right time. While I am sure I am the only ADS member ever to be confused as to a variety of an unplanted bulb, I have found that such distant planting gives me time to identify.

I finally found a way to display miniature daffodils that some of you might like to try. Near the first entrance to our hillside, were some large, rather flat rocks, backed by some nice shrubs, and canopied by *Corylopsis glabrescens*, whose dripping blueberry-like blooms are just great at daffodil-time. Step by step, I added clumps of dafs, separated by miniature conifers. We have kept adding and now—I just went out to count—there are forty-seven little miniature dafs, while in later months they add interest to a walk about.

This is the best way we have found to landscape in a large garden with miniature daffodils.

## SHRUBS AND TREES

With the Big Sixes and the Early Miniatures launched, we look for something to tie these into a scene. At this early daffodil time, before the hardwoods leaf, the greatest contributor overhead is *Rhododendron mucronulatum*. We began with many small ones, and after many years, our hillside glows with a lavender haze.





Miniature daffodils with miniature conifers

The nice thing about *R. mucronulatum*, which first blooms at frost-threatening time, is that it has a series of blooms. Often its first try is zapped by a quick freeze, but a second, and, I think, even a third flowering appears. This year, 1982, all stayed with us until PJM took over. Among the range of shades, one has been called "Cornell Pink."

Among our other shrub collections, the magnolia Dr. Merrill first appears. Unfortunately, its bloom, unlike that of the rhododendron above, once killed by frost, does not return. Still, it is sine qua non for the northern tier. It is a selection from *M. × loebneri*, named for Dr. Merrill of the Arnold Arboretum, readily available, fast growing, floriferous and is our first choice of early magnolias for the North. For inveterate collectors, *M. stellata*, *M. stellata rosea* (waterlily), *M. kobus borealis*, and *M. s. Royal Star* we have found to be interesting, but certainly no better than Dr. Merrill.

As for the malus, our collection is far from that famous one in Iowa, through which we were toured for miles. We have very few, grouped about an ancient apple tree we discovered. The one supposed to bloom at this time—and sometimes so doing—is *M. mandshurica*, white flowered, pretty when, as, and if.

We have a very early-flowering honeysuckle, *Lonicera fragrantissima*, that we enjoy for its almost evergreen leaves and scented blooms.

There is a group of shrubs and trees, preferring moist, even swamp, conditions, but sometimes tolerating average soil. The red maple, *Acer rubra*, the yellow willow, *Salix albus tristis*, probably the first and the last plant to provide summer color to the edges of the season, and *Lindera benzoin*, the spice bush, add touches of yellow and red overhead to the early garden.

One shrub always attracts attention at this time. Its name, *Abeliophyllum distichum*, is such a mouthful, most people prefer to call it "the white forsythia," an apt nickname, and one that reminds us that the real forsythia, which for most Americans announces the arrival of spring, will soon be with us.

# U.S REGISTRATIONS IN 1982

Reported by MRS. KENNETH B. ANDERSON, Registration Chairman

American registrants of new daffodils and their registrations:

EVANS, Murray W.; Corbett, Oregon: Aria,\* Doily, Manna, Motto, Nabob, Pantomime, Swain.

FREY, Jerry and Eileen; Canby, Oregon: Heidi, Soft Touch, Sunny Delight.

KOPOWITZ, Harold; Irvine, California: Winsome Winifred.\*

MITSCH, Grant; Canby, Oregon: Cazique, Cherish, Citron, Culmination, Emphasis, Fidelity, Glissando, Honey Guide, Lapine, Monitor, Mysterious, Phalarope, Planet, Punchline, Refrain, Repose, Sparrow, Starthroat, Vernal, Zulu.

PANNILL, William G.; Martinsville, Virginia: Amaretto,\* Bromley, Chorus Line, Colonnade, Continental, Dulcinea,\* Fire Song, Jamboree, James River, Omega, Lone Star, Rising Star, Round Hill, White Plains.

ROESE, William H.; Santa Maria, California; Esperanza,\* Golden Gate, Guinevere, La Paloma, Queen Mab, Torchfire.

THROCKMORTON, Dr. Tom; Des Moines, Iowa: Golden Pond.

YERGER, Mrs. Merton S.; Princess Anne, Maryland: Wag the Chief.

## REGISTRATIONS

Measurements given are: class, color code, seedling number, seed parent, pollen parent, diameter of whole flower (F), length of perianth segments (P. segs.) and color, length of corona (C. lgth.) and color, diameter of corona (C. diam.), height (H.) and bloom season. Asterisk following flower name indicates that it has not yet been approved by the Royal Horticultural Society. Regretfully, information on Mitsch registrations is incomplete.



AMARETTO\* (Pannill) 2 Y-O; 66/24; (Miralgo × Ambergate); F. 87 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 29 mm, orange; C. diam. 31 mm; H. 40 cm; midseason.

ARIA\* (Evans) 9 W-GYR; P-18/1; (*N. p. recurvus*, open pollinated); F. 70 mm; P. segs. 30 mm, white; C. lgth. 5 mm, green, yellow, red; C. diam. 17 mm; H. 43 cm; late.

BROMLEY (Pannill) 4 W-W; 66/52A; (Gay Time × Zero); F. 94 mm; P. segs., white; C. white; H. 41 cm; midseason.

CAZIQUE (Mitsch) 6 W-W

CHERISH (Mitsch) 2 Y-WWY

CHORUS LINE (Pannill) 8 W-Y; 65/99B; (Matador × *N. triandrus albus*); F. 80 mm; P. segs. 35 mm, white; C. lgth. 15 mm, yellow; C. diam. 23 mm; H. 36 cm; midseason.

CITRON (Mitsch) 3 Y-WWY

COLONNADE (Pannill) 2 W-P; 64/79; (Leonaine × Rose Royale); F. 87 mm; P. segs. 38 mm, white; C. lgth. 31 mm, pink; C. diam. 23 mm; H. 41 cm; midseason.

CONTINENTAL (Pannill) 2 Y-W; 64/110; (Rushlight × Daydream); F. 89 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 30 mm, white; C. diam. 30 mm; H. 42 cm; midseason.

- CULMINATION (Mitsch) 2 W-P  
 DOILY (Evans) 9 W-GYR; N-25/2; (*N. p. recurvus* × Dallas); F. 53 mm; P. segs. 23 mm, white; C. lgth. 3 mm, green, yellow, red; C. diam. 12 mm; H. 34 cm; late.
- DULCINEA\* (Pannill) 2 Y-P; 70/14; (Just So × Bethany); F. 89 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 30 mm, pink; C. diam. 32 mm; H. 42 cm; midseason.
- EMPHASIS (Mitsch) 2 W-P  
 ESPERANZA\* (Roese) 2 Y-R; 72/15/2; (Burning Torch × Heathfire) F. 103 mm; P. segs. 45 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 23 mm, red; C. diam. 17 mm; H. 40 cm; early midseason.
- FIDELITY (Mitsch) 1 Y-P  
 FIRE SONG (Pannill) 3 W-O; 64/45A; (Enniskillen × Hotspur); F. 95 mm; P. segs. 43 mm, white; C. lgth. 10 mm, orange; C. diam. 30 mm; H. 44 cm; midseason.
- GLISSANDO (Mitsch) 2 Y-Y  
 GOLDEN GATE (Roese) 2 Y-Y; 68/6/1; (Camelot × Daydream); F. 117 mm; P. segs. 47 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 41 mm, yellow; C. diam. 45 mm; H. 47 cm; early midseason.
- GOLDEN POND (Throckmorton) 3 Y-YYO; T70/2/10; [(sdlg. × Green Island) × (Aircastle × Irish Coffee)]; P. segs. 39 mm, misty luminous yellow; C. lgth. 11mm, slightly darker than perianth with pale orange rim; H. 45 cm; late midseason.
- GUINEVERE (Roese) 2 Y-Y; 70/20/3; (Camelot × Golden Aura); F. 100 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 34 mm, yellow; H. 41 cm; early midseason.
- HEIDI (Fowlds/Frey) 6 Y-Y; P268/1; (species × species); F. 61 mm; P. segs. 23 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 23 mm, yellow; C. diam. 10 mm; H. 10 cm.
- HONEY GUIDE (Mitsch) 5 Y-Y  
 JAMBOREE (Pannill) 2 Y-O; E 11 (Kingscourt × Chemawa); F. 90 mm; P. segs. 39 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 38 mm, orange; C. diam. 34 mm; H. 41 cm; early midseason.
- JAMES RIVER (Pannill) 2 Y-P; J 74 (Bethany × pink sdlg.); F. 88 mm; P. segs. 39 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 31 mm, pink; C. diam. 33 mm; H. 40 cm; midseason.
- LA PALOMA (Roese) 3 W-GYR; (Estrella × Merlin); F. 83 mm; P. segs. 38 mm, white; C. lgth. 10 mm, green throat, yellow with red edge; H. 36 cm; late midseason.
- LAPINE (Mitsch) 3 Y-YYO  
 LONE STAR (Pannill) 2 W-W; 74/41; (Easter Moon × Cataract); F. 95 mm; P. segs. 41 mm, white; C. lgth. 30 mm, white; C. diam. 33 mm; H. 43 cm; midseason.
- MANNA (Evans) 2 W-GWW; 0-7/1; [White O'Morn × (Duke of Windsor × Green Island)]; F. 100 mm; P. segs. 42 mm, white; C. lgth. 18 mm, green, white; C. diam. 45 mm; H. 30 cm; late midseason.
- MONITOR (Mitsch) 2 W-WWR  
 MOTTO (Evans) 3 W-YYO; N-3615; (Marsh Fire × Hotspur) F. 90 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, white; C. lgth. 12 mm, yellow orange; C. diam. 30 mm; H. 45 cm; midseason.
- MYSTERIOUS (Mitsch) 2 W-W  
 NABOB (Evans) 2 Y-OOY; N-55/1 [Chemawa × (Paricutin × Rustom Pasha)] F. 90 mm; P. segs. 37 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 20 mm, orange yellow; C. diam. 25 mm; H. 48 cm; early midseason.
- OMEGA (Pannill) 9 W-YYR; C10; (Milan × Smyrna); F. 65 mm; P. segs. 29 mm, white; C. lgth. 4 mm, yellow-red; C. diam. 16 mm; H. 36 cm; late midseason.

- PANTOMIME (Evans) classification change 9 W-YYR (formerly 3 W-YYR)  
N-25/1; (*N. p. recurvus* × Dallas); F. 75 mm; P. segs. 30 mm, white; C. lgth. 8 mm, yellow, red; C. diam. 20 mm; H. 36 cm; late midseason.
- PHALAROPE (Mitsch) 6 W-Y
- PLANET (Mitsch) 3 Y-YYO
- PUNCHLINE (Mitsch) 7 Y-YYP
- QUEEN MAB (B.S. Duncan/Roese) 6 W-P; D178 (Lilac Charm sldg. × ?); F. 75 mm; P. segs. 32 mm, white; C. lgth. 25 mm, soft pink; C. diam. 25 mm; H. 25 cm; early midseason.
- REFRAIN (Mitsch) 2 W-P
- REPOSE (Mitsch) 2 YW-YYW
- RISING STAR (Pannill) 7 w-P; 74/26; (pink sldg. × *N. jonquilla*); F. 60 mm; P. segs. 25 mm, white; C. lgth. 13 mm, pink; C. diam. 20 mm; H. 39 cm.
- ROUND HILL (Pannill) 4 W-Y; 66/16A; (Movard × Gay Challenger); F. 92 mm; P. segs. white; C. yellow; H. 40 cm; midseason.
- SOFT TOUCH (Frey) 6 Y-O; A 52/7; [(Market Merry × Carbineer) × *N. cyclamineus*]; F 80 mm; P. segs. 38 mm; yellow; C. lgth. 30 mm, light orange; C. diam. 30 mm; H. 29 cm.
- SPARROW (Mitsch) 6 W-Y
- STARTHROAT (Mitsch) 2 W-GYW
- SUNNY DELIGHT (Frey) 2 Y-Y; JEE 8/7; (Playboy × Chiloquin); F. 97 mm; P. segs. 39 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 30 mm, yellow; C. diam. 30 mm; H. 35 cm.
- SWAIN (Evans) 1 Y-Y; N-46/1 [Arctic Gold × (Galway × 1 Y-Y sldg.)]; F. 110 mm; P. segs., 45 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 45 mm, yellow; C. diam. 45 mm; H. 45 cm; early.
- TORCHFIRE (Roese) 2 Y-R; 72/15/1 (Burning Torch × Heathfire); F. 103 mm; P. segs. 43 mm, yellow; C. lgth. 27 mm, red; C. diam. 24 mm; H. 40 cm; early midseason.
- VERNAL (Mitsch) 2 W-WY
- WAG THE CHIEF (Yerger) 9 W-GYR; (*N. p. hellenicus* × Lights Out); F. 32 mm; P. segs. 13 mm, white; C. lgth. 1.5 mm, green, yellow, red; C. diam. 6 mm; H. 6 cm; late.
- WHITE PLAINS (Pannill) 2 W-W; J3 (Glendermott × Starmount); F. 87 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, white; C. lgth. 32 mm, white; C. diam. 33 mm; H. 39 cm; midseason.
- WINSOME WINIFRED\* (Koopowitz) 2 Y-WWO; C373/5; (Binkie × Lilac Delight ?); F. 94 mm; P. segs. 40 mm, lemon yellow; C. lgth. 22 mm, pink with deeper rim, fades to white with orange rim at maturity; C. diam 45 mm; H. 55 cm; midseason.
- ZULU (Mitsch) 2 Y-R

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## MY LIFE WITH DAFFODILS

ROBERTA C. WATROUS, Washington, D.C.

(from the Newsletter of the Washington Daffodil Society, October, 1981)

I was born in Memphis, Tennessee, some years ago, and as a child I knew only the yellow trumpets we called "jonquils" until in the fourth grade I met "Nar-cis-sus po-et-i-cus." The name fascinated me, and the flowers were easy to draw.

Time passed, and eventually I was working in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Library, where there were several enthusiastic daffodil growers, including one who ordered bulbs from Guy L. Wilson in Ireland and who used to bring blooms in to the library. (*White trumpets!*) After my marriage, when my husband and I began to plan building a house, we went to The Garden Club of Virginia daffodil shows, then held yearly in Alexandria. By the time we moved into our house, in 1937, I had lists of varieties I liked best in the various classes. I joined the Takoma Horticultural Club, which had excellent bulb orders. In addition, I was given some very choice bulbs by the Miss Thompson who ordered from Wilson, and, through her interest, by B. Y. Morrison. I remember especially Beersheba and Fortune.

The next year a bloom from one of the bulbs Mr. Morrison had given me won Best in Show at the Takoma Park club Narcissus Show. I have exhibited every year since then, but I don't think I ever won Best in Show again with a flower of standard size. I have done better with miniatures, though.

It was through the Takoma Horticultural Club that I became acquainted with Edwin C. Powell, then actively hybridizing and selling daffodil bulbs in Maryland. His work in Divisions 5 to 9 of the classification appealed to me most, and the first time I paid as much as \$5.00 for a bulb was for his Kasota, the most colorful 7b I had seen. I was the only person who bought it, and later he lost his stock, but the increase from a bulb or bulbs I gave to Walter Gannaway was purchased by Grant Mitsch around 1965 and offered by him for several years.

Robert C. Moncure was the first person I knew to be interested in miniature daffodils. I was captivated by the ones he showed in the Alexandria shows, and he introduced me to Alec Gray's catalogues, specializing in species and miniatures. He also told me about the Hodge-Podge Shop in Gloucester, Virginia, and the bulb business of George W. Heath, now known as The Daffodil Mart and operated by Brent Heath. It was through George Heath that I first heard of Carey Quinn and the fine bulbs he was buying.

As prospective chairman of the Takoma Horticultural Club 1950 show I was one of the group that worked together to put on that first combined National Capital Narcissus Show that led to the formation of WDS. My assignment that first show was the preparation of the schedule. When WDS was formed I served as secretary the first six years, later as president and in other capacities.

My interest in miniatures and species is what led me to try hybridizing. I preferred to cross miniatures only, but at times would use one of the small species with a larger flower. Chevy Chase came from Tunis  $\times$  *N. jonquilla*; Flyaway from *N. cyclamineus*  $\times$  *N. jonquilla*. Although I produced hundreds of seedlings, and took many of them to shows, only a few were registered and introduced. The miniatures Flyaway, Kibitzer, and Curlylocks were offered by Grant Mitsch in 1974 and for several years thereafter, and have done well in shows. My many seedlings, however, have given me much pleasure and have served to increase the interest in miniatures and in hybridizing by amateurs.

In 1959 I was appointed chairman of the Breeding and Selection committee of ADS, and served in that job until I became editor in 1968. After ten years as editor I thought I was retiring, but WDS has kept me busy since, as bulb order chairman, president, historian, or Newsletter editor, the jobs sometimes overlapping.

I think that is enough about me.

(Alice Battle, President of the Washington Daffodil Society, finally, after a year, persuaded [Roberta says insisted] Roberta to write the above article.—Ed.)

## BEGINNER'S CORNER

FRANCES ARMSTRONG, Covington, Virginia

For most of us December is a busy month and our thoughts are far away from daffodils. But in the warmer climates of our country, some of the tazettas and species are already in bloom! Wherever you live, you should consider watering your bulbs as the foliage begins to emerge if rainfall or snow is insufficient. Most of our best exhibitors believe that an inch of water a week *during the growing season* promotes size and substance in their blooms.

If you failed to fertilize in the fall, winter is a good time to do so. I like to throw some low nitrogen fertilizer such as 2-12-12 or 5-10-10 over a deep snow and let the water carry it into the ground as the snow melts. If you live in a warm humid climate, the lower nitrogen fertilizer is better as nitrogen combined with heat and moisture promotes basal rot. If you mulch with woodchips or sawdust, your soil may require the higher nitrogen fertilizer (5-10-10) as these kinds of mulches take nitrogen out of the soil as they decay. 2-12-12 and 3-18-18 fertilizers are used to fertilize potatoes and are available in early spring at feed stores.

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## MINIATURES — MINUS ONE

PEGGY MACNEALE, *Chairman, Committee on Miniatures*

The deadline for adding to and subtracting from the Approved List of Miniatures has arrived, and this year there is very little change. No new candidate meets the qualifications for miniature status. We have had a recommendation or two for four flowers: Little Dancer, Hummingbird, Anticipation, and Topolino, but the rules require three written votes before the committee makes any decision. If other members grow any of these four small daffodils, and feel that they should be considered, please let us hear from you. All of these four have been in commerce in recent years, though they may not be listed by any grower every year.

As noted in the June *Journal*, we have long debated dropping Lintie from the Approved List. The only comments received have been affirmative. Thus, Lintie is now officially declared too large to be a true miniature. Please correct your *DTS&G* handbook to indicate this change: the H for height should now be 2 rather than 1.

Two other flowers mentioned in the June *Journal* as possible deletions are still being discussed. Several letters were received urging retention on the Approved List of Frosty Morn and Cobweb. We are sensitive to the fact that there can possibly be several different forms of these cultivars growing here and there — some smaller than others — or perhaps it is a difference in culture or soil type that causes some to grow larger. In any case, when members take the time to write, their concern becomes an important factor in our final decision.

Of greater concern to this committee is the scarcity of so many of the bulbs that are listed as miniature. Are such bulbs as Flute, Morwenna, and Marychild still in existence? No one has seen these or many others on commercial lists for years. Hoping to discover some of these rarities growing (and flourishing!) somewhere, we are working toward establishing a bulb exchange for miniatures that are hard to find. The committee has been busy evaluating all the names on the Approved List, rating them for scarcity. Look for further news of this venture, which we hope can begin to function in 1983, but surely by 1984.

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as of September 15, 1982

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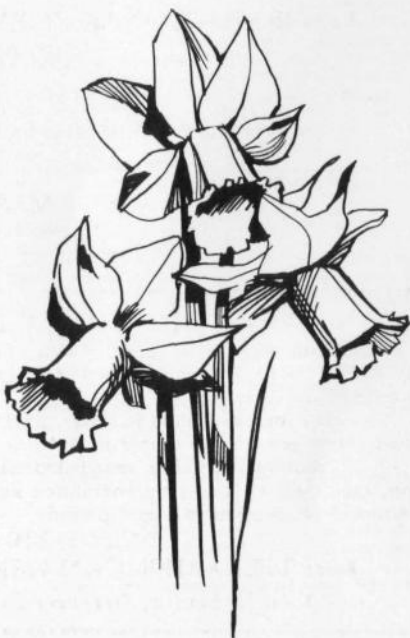
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# REGISTRATION FORM

A D S CONVENTION - APRIL 7-9, 1983

FORT MAGRUDER INN, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Christian or Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: Before March 6 ..... \$90.00

March 6 or Later ..... \$95.00

Registration includes National Show; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Dinners; lunch on Friday; tour and lunch on Saturday. All breakfasts and Thursday lunch on your own.

If you plan to exhibit, check Yes  for advance exhibitor's number and show schedule.

If you **CANNOT** eat seafood, please check .

Saturday tour and lunch limited to first 350 registrants.

Please make check payable to and mail to Mr. P.R. Moore, Jr., Treasurer, 96 Sandy Bay Drive, Poquoson, Virginia, 23662.

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## HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST

Fort Magruder Inn  
Box KE, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187  
Toll Free Numbers: VA 800-582-1010  
US 800-446-4082  
American Daffodil Society April 6-9, 1983

Please submit by March 6, 1983 for discount rates of:

\$60.00 SINGLE ( )      \$60.00 DOUBLE ( )      \$125.00 SUITE ( )

ADS GROUP AND CODE #7770

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

Send the reservation request directly to the Ft. Magruder Inn with a deposit for the first night's lodging. After March 6, reservations accepted on a space available basis at **NON-DISCOUNTED RATES**. Cancellations accepted no less than 48 hours prior to arrival date.

# WILLIAMSBURG 1983

FRAN LEWIS, *North, Virginia*

Williamsburg is always lovely but especially so in the spring. The Tidewater Virginia Daffodil Society anticipates April 7-9, 1983, to be the loveliest of them all. On those dates, it will host the American Daffodil Society's 28th Annual Convention and Show at the Fort Magruder Inn and Conference Center. The Inn, about 8/10 of a mile from the restored area of Colonial Williamsburg, is located on the site of the Civil War Battle of Williamsburg. Some of the original breastworks of the fort have been incorporated in the landscaping.

All meetings and the show will be held in the spacious facilities of the Conference Center. Show entries may be received beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, and again before 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. The show opens at 3:00 p.m., April 7, and awards will be presented the same day at 5:00 p.m. It will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on April 8. We are expecting some spectacular commercial exhibits for your perusal and enjoyment. Board meetings will be held on Thursday and Saturday afternoons.

The annual meeting and dinner Thursday evening will be followed by the showing of a film, "The Colonial Naturalist," produced by Colonial Williamsburg. It depicts a visit to the colonies by Mark Catesby, a great English naturalist. On Friday, there will be lectures, including a refresher course on diseases presented by Dr. Theodore E. Snazelle. Lunch will be at the Inn as will dinner that evening, followed by a speaker.

A tour of gardens in Gloucester and Mathews Counties has been arranged for Saturday. Mr. & Mrs. Tazewell M. Carrington III, of Richmond, have cordially invited us to be their luncheon guests at their country home, "The Farm," located on the beautiful Piankatank River in Mathews County. This will be an old-fashioned southern barbecue, flavored bountifully with the warmth and graciousness of our genial host and hostess. "The Farm" has established plantings of 1,000 or more show bulbs and over 2000 daffodils in naturalized setting. Tulip poplar, walnut, and crabapple trees abound. One of the largest pecan trees in Tidewater may be seen here.

The Daffodil Mart will offer a special treat. The Heaths have been bulb growers for three generations. Here you may roam the fields of standards, see their seedling and miniature plantings, and enjoy the scenic beauty of daffodils naturalized around a lovely pond. Visitors will also be welcomed to Becky and Brent Heath's new home, a primarily re-cycled, passive solar house, situated on Gloucester's Back Creek.

The gardens at "Goshen," home of Mr. & Mrs. C. Frederic Lyman, are both formal and informal. Here you will see outstanding ancient crepe myrtles, English boxwood, and many perennials. There are large beds of the more common daffodils and many which have been naturalized. Beds are mulched superlatively with ground crepe myrtle leaves. "Goshen" is near the headwaters of the Ware River in Gloucester County. A portion of the home dates back prior to the Revolutionary War.

"Lisburne" is the home of Mr. & Mrs. David L. Peebles, in Gloucester County. It is a lovely estate which includes 290 acres of landscaped gardens and farmland. "Lisburne" has outstanding and extensive collections of shrubs, trees, and perennials, including rhododendrons and azaleas. The hawthorns should be in bloom at this time. The largest tree box in the country, about 30-40 feet high, grows at "Lisburne."

The Saturday night banquet will feature Mr. Henry Mitchell, Washington Post columnist, a clever and entertaining speaker, who knows and is fond of daffodils.

Leisure time, especially in the afternoons, may be spent sightseeing and shopping in the restored area of Colonial Williamsburg with its historical buildings and shops. Visit the College of William and Mary, the second oldest (1693) college in our country. While there, take time for the daffodil test garden which has been expanded recently largely through the efforts of Dr. John Tarver, alumnus of the college and active member of ADS. In the same area, enjoy the newly naturalized beds of daffodils—the beginning of still another of Dr. Tarver's projects. More about this in a later issue.

Browse and buy in the Kingsmill and Merchants Square shops. You must run over to the famous Williamsburg Pottery, just minutes away. Select from acres of pottery, glass, and numerous interesting foreign and domestic items at low prices. It's an unusual experience you'll never forget.

Among historic attractions located nearby is Jamestown, site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World. While at Yorktown, the 1781 Revolutionary War site, stop at the Yorktown Victory Center which has many historical exhibits. Private arrangements maybe made with the limousine service in the Inn for any tours you might desire to take.

Mr. & Mrs. Donald S. King, Hartfield, Va. 23071, are Co-Chairmen of the Convention. Mr. & Mrs. H. de Shields Henley, 115 Conifer Road, Newport News, Va. 23606, are Co-Chairmen of the Show.

The Tidewater Virginia Daffodil Society has planned a most memorable occasion for you. Beautiful daffodils, beautiful people, beautiful surroundings! How can you possibly miss Williamsburg in April 1983?

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## CONTROL OF THE LARGE NARCISSUS FLY BY DURSBAN\*

THEODORE E. SNAZELLE, Ph. D.  
*Department of Biological Sciences*  
*Mississippi College, Clinton, MS 39058*

The life history and control of the large narcissus fly, *Lampetia equestris*, has been discussed previously (1, 2). In the United States, the only insecticide approved for use in control of the large narcissus fly by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is trichlorfon (Proxol SP or Dylox R). Despite this EPA approval, there seems to have been some difficulty in obtaining trichlorfon in some areas of the country. Also, trichlorfon has proven to be quite expensive as compared to the previously used chlordane. Thus, the need to look for some alternate to trichlorfon. Research in both The Netherlands and England has shown that Dursban (chlorpyrifos) is effective in control of the large narcissus fly (3, 4). Dursban is the trade name for the chemical chlorpyrifos. Also, Dursban (chlorpyrifos) is routinely available in the U.S. for use as a lawn insecticide.

### CONTROL

#### *Cold Water Dip*

A cold water dip for narcissus bulbs can be prepared by making a 0.25% Dursban (chlorpyrifos) solution and dipping the bulbs for 15 minutes before

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\*Trademark of the Dow Chemical Company

planting (4). One liquid brand of Dursban is Kill-Ko Dursban (chlorpyrifos 22.4% ec); the 'ec' means emulsifiable concentrate. The concentration of 'ai' (active ingredient) of Dursban (chlorpyrifos 22.4% ec) or any other concentration, e.g. chlorpyrifos 2.85%, can be calculated as follows:

Volume Dursban (chlorpyrifos ec stock to be dil- uted to a final volume of one gal with water)	Concentration Dursban (Chlorpyrifos required (ai) = $\frac{\hspace{1.5cm}}{\hspace{1.5cm}}$ Concentration Dursban (chlorpyrifos) stock (ec)	Final Volume X Wanted
	$= \frac{0.25\% \text{ ai Dursban (chlorpyrifos)}}{22.4\% \text{ ec Dursban (chlorpyrifos)}} \times 3785.4 \text{ ml (1 gal)}$	
	$= (0.011 (3785.4))$	
	$= 41.6 \text{ ml Dursban (chlorpyrifos 22.4\% ec)}$	
	or approximately 3 tbs (tablespoons)	

Now, 41.6 ml or 3 tbs of Dursban (chlorpyrifos 22.4% ec) is brought up to a total volume of one gallon with water; the result is a 0.25% Dursban (chlorpyrifos) solution. When the 0.25% Dursban (chlorpyrifos) solution has been prepared, the bulbs should be dipped for 15 minutes and then planted while wet, preferably (4).

Wettable powder formulations of Dursban exist; however, none of the feed and seed stores, co-op's, etc. in Jackson, Mississippi, carried these formulations of Dursban whereas all these businesses carried the Dursban liquid formulations. Thus, at this writing, I have no specific recommendations on the use of wettable powder formulations of Dursban as a bulb dip to control the large narcissus fly.

If you buy a bottle Martin's Dursban (chlorpyrifos 2.85% ec), a 0.25% Dursban (chlorpyrifos) solution would be prepared by bringing 333 ml or 22½ tbs or approximately 1 1/3 cups Dursban (chlorpyrifos 2.85% ec) up to a final volume of one gallon with water for a bulb dip.

### *Foliage Spray*

During the time of large narcissus fly activity, i.e. from late March until June (depending upon the geographical area), Dursban (chlorpyrifos) is sprayed as a drench at the base of the daffodil foliage and on the surrounding ground at the rate of 2 quarts Dursban (chlorpyrifos 22.4% ec)/1300 gallons water/acre or 4.4 ml, approximately 1 tsp (teaspoon), Dursban (chlorpyrifos 22.4% ec)/3 gal water/100 square feet. For Dursban (chlorpyrifos 2.85% ec), you would use 35 ml or 2 1/3 tbs. (2 tbs + 1 tsp) Dursban (chlorpyrifos 2.85% ec)/ 3 gal water/ 100 square feet as a drenching spray. The spray may be applied at intervals up to three times during the fly season to insure control of the large narcissus fly. The reason so much water is used with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) is to get the insecticide down into the ground where it can kill the fly larvae after the eggs hatch. A good rain after spraying the foliage and ground with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) is beneficial.

## DISCUSSION

In England, a Dursban (chlorpyrifos) bulb dip and three sprays of Dursban (chlorpyrifos) liquid in the spring resulted in a reduction of large narcissus fly damage by 66-75% (4). Thus, it would appear that Dursban (chlorpyrifos) is a satisfactory replacement for chlordane. Furthermore, Dursban (chlorpyrifos) also seems to be a cheaper and more readily available alternate to trichlorfon (Dylox R and Proxol SP).

One question that needs to be raised is whether or not benomyl is compatible with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) in a bulb dip. This is a significant question which will be answered in subsequent experimentation. Such a pilot experiment will be underway by the time the reader scans these lines.

## RECOMMENDATION

For bulbs left down just one season, the Dursban (chlorpyrifos) dip before planting is recommended for the control of the large narcissus fly; alternatively, a spring spraying with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) of the foliage base at three different times would be expected to give as satisfactory results as a bulb dip before planting (4). However, as stated previously, the combination of a pre-planting Dursban (chlorpyrifos) bulb dip and three foliage drenches with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) would be expected to give the best large narcissus fly control (4). Therefore, where a grower is aware of a large narcissus fly problem or feels that there is a potential for one, then the control procedure for one-year-down bulbs would include both a Dursban (chlorpyrifos) pre-planting bulb dip followed in the spring by three drenches of the foliage and surrounding ground during the time of fly activity.

In the case of bulbs left down for two or more years, a Dursban (chlorpyrifos) dip should be given before the bulbs are first planted, and the foliage base and surrounding ground should be sprayed with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) up to three different times each spring in order to insure maximum large narcissus fly control.

## PRECAUTION

Follow the directions on the Dursban (chlorpyrifos) label religiously as Dursban (chlorpyrifos), like most other insecticides, is toxic to fish, birds, and other wildlife. Wear rubber gloves or wash your hands thoroughly after handling bulbs treated with Dursban (chlorpyrifos) or after spraying the base of daffodil foliage and the surrounding ground. Lastly, follow the label instructions for disposal of unused chemical and the empty container.

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Franklin Park Conservatory

LAURA ERIKSON

## DAFFODILS AT FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY

RUTH PARDUE, *Columbus, Ohio*

The Franklin Park Conservatory, built in 1895, which is operated by the Columbus Recreation and Parks system in Columbus, Ohio, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Each year six different free displays are presented (in the glass exhibit room) for the public enjoyment. In February and March, an elaborate show of spring bulbs is staged. The pots of forced flowers are changed at least once.

The Central Ohio Daffodil Society's display and test garden at Whetstone Park supplies bulbs for forcing for this show. The Whetstone Park is part of the Columbus Recreation and Parks system. From the excess bulbs dug each year, pots of daffodils are prepared by the staff at the Conservatory. The following is a data form recorded by David Junka, Curator of the Franklin Park Conservatory.

Potting: September 5, 1981

Potting mixture: 1/3 soil, 1/3 sand, 1/3 sphagnum moss, bone meal fertilizer

Placed in cool room at time of potting

Temperature (cool room): Day, 50°-60°

Night, 45°-50°

Placed in cold frames on October 10, 1981. Covered with four inches of mulch. First show: Dug from cold frames, January 25, 1982; placed in greenhouse, 60°-70°.



Pots of forced bulbs at the Conservatory

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Daffodils at the spring bulb show

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CULTIVAR	NO. OF BULBS	NO. OF BUDS 2/5	BLOOM 2/14	COMMENTS
Inishkeen 1 W-Y	10	10	excellent	sturdy
Mrs. Ernest Krelage 1 W-W	20	33	excellent	long lasting
Pinza 2 Y-YOR	10	5	excellent	good color
Devilry 2 Y-O	20	27	excellent	good color
Andes 1 W-W	15	17	good	droopy foliage
Kilworth 2 W-GRR	12	10	none	not in bloom 2/22
Red Goblet 2 Y-R	19	22	bud, color	buds just showing bloom 2/18, good color
Fairy Tale 3 W-YYO	5	5	none	not in bloom 2/22
Lemon Cup 2 W-Y	21	26	good	very droopy
Johannesburg 2 W-O	14	15	bud	bloom 2/22
Saltash 2 Y-R	7	7	(no color) bud, color	OK
Royal Charm 2 Y-OOY	12	2	bud blast	removed

Second show: Dug from cold frame February 1, 1982; placed in greenhouse, 60°.

CULTIVAR	NO. OF BULBS	NO. OF BUDS 2/14	BLOOM 2/21	COMMENTS
Magic Dawn 2 W-P	14	22	bud, excellent foliage	2/26 good bloom
Broughshane 1 W-W	17	19	still bud	good, late
Sweet Talk 2 W-WWP	10	11	still bud	late
Florrisant 2 W-YYW	26	30	excellent	No. 2 choice
Irish Charm 2 W-OOY	10	11	bud, low bloom,	late, poor
Fancy Lad 2 Y-O	13	16	great color	No. 1 choice
Golden Age 1 Y-Y	9	9	bud showing color	good
Golden Sensation 1 Y-Y	17	20	full bloom	good
Lady Kesteven 3 W-R	7	8	bud only	late
Barri Conspicuous 3 Y-YYR	14	10	bud color	OK
Pomona 3 W-GYO	11	11	bud, color	OK, late
Foray 2 W-YYP	15	18	floppy	could not use, poor
Pink Supreme 2 W-P	9	11	bud, color	good color
Pres. Lebrun 1 W-Y	21	22	bud color	good
Sun Chariot 2 Y-O	12	12	full bloom	very good

Fancy Lad, Florrisant, Pinza, Broughshane, Mrs. Krelage, and Pink Supreme were favorites among the more than 3,000 visitors to the Conservatory during the Spring Bulb Show.

The 1983 show will use daffodil cultivars from Divisions 1, 2, 6, 7, and 11. February and March visitors to Columbus, Ohio, should put a stop at the Franklin Park Conservatory on their agenda. The Conservatory is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. everyday of the year, holidays included, and is located at 1777 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43203. Information on activities can be secured from John H. Death, Director. Not only will visitors see a beautifully preserved landmark, but enjoy labeled cultivars of good garden daffodils.

## AMY MITSCH

1912 - 1982

Amy was born in Nebraska. In 1935 she met Grant Mitsch in Crawfordsville, Oregon, and married him there, two years later. This union was blessed with two daughters, now Eileen Frey and Elise Havens.

They were blessed also with row upon row of the world's most beautiful and famous daffodils. Amy had little to do with the actual breeding of the flowers. All she did was: act as wife and mother; run a continuing exhibit of varieties during the season; be in charge of sales; act as short-order cook and hostess; pick and bunch commercial varieties for the Portland florist trade—and take care of Grant.

Jean and I spent three full and happy days with Amy Mitsch this past spring; she seemed entirely her old self. Later she was digging bulbs out of hardened clay just a few days before her death. We shall always remember her kind, gentle self and rejoice that no prolonged pain or suffering came to her. The thoughts of all the ADS members go out to Grant; these thoughts and his loving children are the present antidote for his sorrow.

—TOM D. THROCKMORTON

## TAZETTA TALK

WILLIAM WELCH, *Carmel Valley California*

This summer's digging of bulbs naturalized in grass has enabled me to see the remarkable ability of some tazettas to continue multiplying well, while many others slowed down considerably since I began growing nearly all my bulbs this way two years ago.

I have known for a long time that the China Lily is one that will multiply rapidly even when naturalized, but some of the most impressive bulbs were those of the type of White Pearl pictured so accurately opposite page 127 of the *Daffodil Handbook* (1966). From the size and increase I would never have guessed these were grown in grass and for just two years at that. This one has also gone under the name French Monarque, but there seems to be no verifiable name for it and since it is proving so useful and distinct it will be registered in 1983 as Early Pearl. Totally distinct from Polly's Pearl, this one has the same dark green foliage seen in Grand Primo and Erlicheer. Though undoubtedly a very old variety, there is no sign of virus in it so perhaps its vigor is not too surprising. Notable is its extra-long stem and foliage. Even in full sun, during frosty weather, stems are still 18" when the head (consisting of about a dozen florets) is fully open. Stems are of great thickness and strength, growing along with the leaves to an eventual length of 2½ feet. Though rains end here usually in early April, this is still quite green when the field is mowed in mid-June. Foliage appears in November, soon after the usual start of autumn rains, with the flowers appearing during January—which is the coldest month here—when few others are in bloom. In my March, 1980, *Journal* article, it is described as Early Grand Primo, with a photo appearing on page 160. Its similarity in shape to Paper White is most obvious but there the similarity ends as there is a definite creamy color in the perianth along with a pale yellow in the cup which soon fades out to the same creamy color. On opening there is a strong greenish cast down inside the very small cup. In cultivated ground, with irrigation

early in the fall, I've seen flowers as early as November—when it flowered at all, that is! Happy in both heavy and light soils, the increase under cultivation is so great as to make it even speedier than *Canaliculatus*. The largest clumps I've grown were from two-year down bulbs under such conditions. This is one kind which is definitely better off naturalized, cutting down a bit on increase while making the flowering reliable. I've crossed florets by the hundred, using a wide range of tazetta and poetaz pollens, with as little success on this as on China Lily. But, like China Lily, pollen is plentifully produced which will cross onto other tazettas. I love the resistance of those dark green leaves to the leaf scorch common on China Lily and the yellows. Though pointed in outline, this must not be confused with "Stars" (Minor Monarque) which is of poor substance and extremely long in perianth segments. Stars is often misnamed as *N. italicus* but is totally sterile unlike the wild form. A photo of this appears on the same page as the Early Pearl (Early Grand Primo) in my March, 1980, *Journal* article. Both of these have longer pedicels than seen on other bicolors such as Grand Primo and Scilly White.

Another I will be registering is Gold Cups which is apparently a mutation from Avalanche as it first appeared in a stock of these grown from chips off the original bulbs, which were always a uniform stock. This stands out from Avalanche in being distinctly darker in the cups. There really isn't any other clear-cut difference except perhaps even greater vigor. Seed and pollen fertility are quite good, as with Avalanche, and it blooms at the same time (February). The cup is a bright rich yellow, but without the orange tint seen in China Lily. Basically an improved Avalanche.

Another which will be registered is of the same color as Avalanche but is of perhaps the stiffest substance seen in any true tazetta. I have not yet come up with a name for it but hope to come up with a name emphasizing its substance. It appeared in a rogue-filled stock of *Compressus* originating in the Scilly Isles. Stems and leaves are also of great sturdiness and the vigor and multiplication are excellent. Seed-setting ability is similar to that of Avalanche, but pollen is sometimes rather more grainy, though I have used it. Floret size is larger than Avalanche, much like that seen in the various Grand Monarque forms, but this retains the roundness of Avalanche. I wouldn't be surprised if it has a higher chromosome number than the others. It flowers with its relatives. There seem to be fewer florets in the head though, as about fifteen is the most seen so far, and there does not seem to be the tendency to produce secondary stems seen in the others.

It often seems as though many of the best pollen producers bloom after the best seed setters are over. Storage of pollen is essential when one is working with such a long flowering season as seen in tazettas; and after reading Harold Koopowitz's article in the June, 1979, *Journal*, I finally got around to doing it. My hybridizing has been far more productive since then. I'm amazed at how simple a process it is, as you will discover when you try it. I got packets of silica gel from a local camera store, where the packets had been saved over a period of time. I understand it can also be gotten from hobby shops where it is sold for use in drying flowers. Because dewfall and bees, not to mention rain, can be so destructive of pollen, I collect the anthers when the flowers are in the loose bud stage or just beginning to open. At this stage the anthers have not yet opened up to reveal the pollen. They can then be spread out in a clean jar lid indoors to dry out for a couple days by which time the anthers will have opened and shrunk down to the normal size. Then put several anthers in a gelatin capsule (obtained at a pharmacy or health food store and very cheap) and shake it vigorously which will transfer the pollen to the walls of

the capsule. I keep the capsules from each kind in a separate labelled 2" x 3" paper envelope (available cheaply at a stationery store). These go into ordinary screw-lid jars along with a packet or two of silica gel and put in the freezer. I keep some capsules in the refrigerator to use during the course of the season, while the others are stashed away for the following year. I'm surprised that more people do not do this. Try it!

It seems strange that the three species, *N. serotinus*, *N. elegans*, and *N. viridiflorus*, are considered the only autumn-flowering species when in fact there are many forms of *N. tazetta* which are of similar earliness. Anything that blooms by Thanksgiving can easily be considered autumn-flowering and even more are in flower reliably by Christmas. In fact, most true tazettas have at one time or another bloomed for me in the fall or been reported by others as having done so. Even the poetaz, Cragford, was reported by Guy Wilson as flowering by the end of November outdoors. In my experience, the reliably autumn-flowering tazettas are China Lily and its double form, the Ziva Paperwhite, Newton, the latter starting in early December while the others come in late November. By late December the true Soleil d'Or and the Australian Paper White can be expected.

Certainly one of the most important factors governing earliness is the ability of a given variety to start roots while the soil is still warm. Bulbs will not respond to irrigation unless the soil is cool enough, and this is where the China Lily has proven the most tolerant of soil warmth. Even in a warm location, during a normally warm year, they will respond to irrigation in early September which assures the first flowers by the end of November. In my experience most others will not respond to watering until the soil starts to cool in October.

Another important factor is the ability to make rapid top growth after rooting, and it is this which enables Ziva to bloom in quantity just before the main batch of China Lilies in spite of rooting weeks later. If Ziva will take pollen from China Lily, perhaps the two earliness factors could be brought together in a hybrid early enough to flower reliably by the end of October. One kind which is rather late to root but fast with the top growth—once that happens—is the true Soleil d'Or. Its bud follows quickly after the emergence of leaves as is the case with Ziva. China Lily's early rooting would lead to much earlier bloom if only its bud were as fast in appearing after the leaves.

Much has been said of the importance of Autumn Sol in the breeding of earlier tazettas, not to mention its own earliness. With me, it is usually a real slowpoke! Newton, French Sol and its double form (Golden Rain), and an unnamed yellow also from France, have consistently flowered two months before the February blooming of Autumn Sol. I'm convinced that Autumn Sol needs an earlier cooling of the soil than occurs here in order to spring into action soon enough before cold sets in to be able to flower in the fall. The amazing thing is that when I had it planted in a cool, shady spot under the oaks, and watered it in the summer, it flowered at the beginning of September, fully 5 months sooner! That was, if I remember correctly, a season noted for its earliness but only in such a season would any location here cool down enough to permit the early growth commonly seen in Cornwall where it has come as early as August after cool, wet summers. It is conceivable that with luck one could mate it with China Lily to permit earlier rooting in the offspring and hopefully greater earliness than either. I'm skeptical of Autumn Sol's usefulness in breeding earlier yellows as it does at Rosewarne. I guess my old standby from China will have to take its place in crosses toward earlier yellows, or whites for that matter. Might even give me some doubles, too.

It seems that a cooler summer and an early fall go hand-in-hand and that this is the crucial factor in getting the later tazettas to come earlier. The earlier cooling of the soil permits the bulbs to respond if water is present, bringing February

bloomers around to the other side of the usual January cold spell, meaning such things as Grand Primo and Avalanche in November. An early fall seems to suggest a cold winter here so the earliness is very helpful in avoiding frost damage at flowering time. As I write this at the end of September, the first rain has just rooted everything at least a month earlier than usual, after one of the coolest summers on record. One-year-old seedlings are coming into full leaf and it is no more than six weeks after the first roots formed on any that were watered. The bulbs act as though they fear the upcoming winter and want to accomplish as much growth as possible before a cold winter sets—perhaps by December. It is interesting how bulbs seem to “learn” to adapt to cold by blooming ahead of it rather than after. I am reminded of Helen Link’s reporting how *Erlicheer* comes up and blooms in the fall for her, after which top growth is destroyed by the winter, with new growth coming in the spring to build up the bulbs in the usual manner. I rather wish they would be that early here, but the usual time for *Erlicheer* here is the second half of February. It’s the most profuse bloomer I have, and the one I recommend most for trial in cold, as well as warm, areas. I wonder if putting it in a cool location and watering it early in the fall to permit early growth and rooting would make for more reliable bloom in cold climates where blooms in the spring seem so likely to be hurt by cold. Mulching well at autumn bloom time would help protect the bulbs through the winter when the fall growth would be wiped out, but those bulbs could be expected to make enough new leaf growth in the spring. I would welcome reports on how this works for those who try it.

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## THE MINIATURE SPECIES AND THEIR PROGENY

### Part I - *Narcissus cyclamineus*

HELEN K. LINK, *Brooklyn, Indiana*

Have you ever wondered where the miniature cultivars came from and how they originated? The ADS Approved List of Miniatures has grown very little in recent years as compared to the standard cultivars. There are several reasons for the slow increase in the number of additions to the list.

In researching the miniature species, one finds relatively few available with which one can work when hybridizing. Some of the miniature species are short lived and must be grown from seed in order to keep a constant supply. Some are tender in cold climates and must be grown in pots in a greenhouse or some sheltered area. Often miniature hybrid seedlings disappear after blooming a couple of years, especially after a severe winter and if grown out of doors in the open.

Miniature species which can be readily obtained are the various bulbocodiums, *N. cyclamineus*, *N. triandrus*, *N. juncifolius*, *N. jonquilla*, and *N. rupicola*. The pollen from all of these has a high percentage of morphological perfect grains and is also highly viable, thus they make good pollen parents. The fact that pollen is viable and plentiful does not mean that when used on standard, intermediate, or miniature cultivars one will get miniature progeny, or any progeny at all.

In mid-February *N. cyclamineus*, with its rich yellow trumpet and perianth reflexed like a cyclamen, is one of the first species to come into bloom. The perianth segments are so tightly reflexed that they lie straight back along the stem.

The crown is usually wavy-edged. One author has compared it to the "ears of an angry mule," "a frightened rabbit and a kicking horse;" another says that it makes one think of a "bevy of gnomes in agitated conclave."

It is told that when Dean Herbert came upon *N. cyclamineus* in an old work published in 1633, *Theatrum Florae*, he called it absurdity "which will never be found to exist;" but in 1836 it was rediscovered by Alfred Tait in Portugal and in 1837 by Peter Barr on one of his explorative tours through the Spanish peninsula.

*N. cyclamineus* is one of the easiest miniatures to use as a pollen parent; it also sets seed readily. There is considerable variation in the open pollinated seedlings; some have perianths which are less reflexed than others and broader. When crossed with standards the progeny may be disappointing, and the expected dwarf flower often is too tall and stocky.

A cross of *N. asturiensis* by *N. cyclamineus* gave Mini-cycla for Herbert Chapman in 1913. Some miniatures have been around for a long time, just in case one may be inclined to think they are a recent discovery.

I have found that when seed pods form on the *cyclamineus* species, and I let them ripen and then scatch the seed into the ground around the parent plant, in a couple of years I get bloom. In a bed where I have other miniature cyclamineus hybrids growing I get a number of interesting hybrids, and I can only assume *N. cyclamineus* was pollinated by a bee. Since Opening Bid and Mite (*obvallaris* × *cyclamineus*) are both nearby, perhaps one of them is the other parent. These crosses are interesting, and some have very nice cyclamineus form—taller, broader perianths and less reflexed than *N. cyclamineus*. Some have been quite hardy and I hope will reproduce quickly. It is interesting to note that from seed to bloom is from two to three years.

Atom (*Wee Bee* × *cyclamineus*) has delightful, early, long-lasting bloom, much more tailored than its pollen parent; but, alas for me, it has not been long-lived. After three years it did not multiply and has disappeared.



Atom

LINK



Cyclataz (Soleil d'Or  $\times$  *N. cyclamineus*) is one of the few miniatures in Division 8. It gets its orange cup from the seed parent and probably its aversion to cold climates as well. It does beautifully in a cold greenhouse.

Flute (Tanagra  $\times$  *N. cyclamineus*) is hard to find, therefore, I am unable to say how well it does, but since stock is not readily available one would have to assume it is slow to increase.

Flyaway (*N. cyclamineus*  $\times$  *N. jonquilla*) has been a welcome addition to the miniature list. It has done well for me, and I have had extra stock to trade with friends. Whether the cross of two different species is a factor in hardiness of the progeny, I am not sure; however, both *N. cyclamineus* and *N. jonquilla* have very good pollen, and *N. jonquilla* is almost a weed in some areas which may be a factor in transmission of the genes for hardiness.

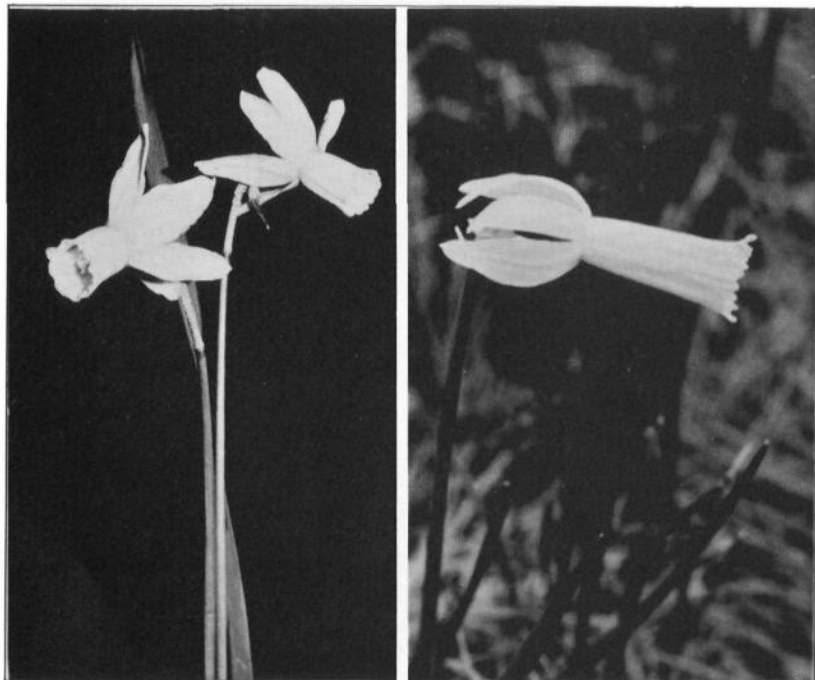
Greenshank (W.P. Milner  $\times$  *N. cyclamineus*?) I have never seen and doubt that it is plentifully.

Jetage (*N. cyclamineus*  $\times$  Rockery White) is also hard to find. Rockery White is a shy bloomer and not entirely hardy in the rockwall. It probably gave some of those genes to its progeny.

Jumble (Cyclataz  $\times$  Cyclataz) with its orange cup is a welcome addition to the miniature list. It is quite productive, but like its parent with Soleil d'Or genes it is not dependable for hardiness in cold climates.

Kibitzer (*N. minor conspicuus*  $\times$  *N. cyclamineus*) is a sturdy little flower, free flowering, good increaser, and sets seed. Stock is available, but still limited.

Mite is a very attractive miniature; its perianth segments are much broader than those of its pollen parent (*N. cyclamineus*). It multiplies very well in the sod, and forms drifts, but does poorly in a well cultivated bed. I have found that its seed parent, *N. ps. obvallaris*, will not prosper in the sod.



Left, Jumble; right, Mite

LINK

Opening Bid, parentage unknown, has proven to be an excellent grower for me, very early, long lasting, and a good multiplier. I recently dug eighteen bulbs from the original bulb down since 1975. It is a little short of stem for the size of the flower, but ridiculously prolific and ought to be a good seed parent, as it does seed readily.

Tete-a-Tete (Cyclataz × Cyclataz) is plentiful and an excellent grower. There seems to be some question as to whether this sturdy, prolific grower was open pollinated or Cyclataz selfed, since Broadleigh Gardens in an old catalog listed it as Cyclataz selfed; however, the Data Bank lists it as Cyclataz × open pollinated. It is probably the most prolific grower and bloomer of all the miniatures in Division 6. When well grown with as many as three blooms to the scape it is almost too large for the miniature section. I have found it is better not to fertilize it at all. Growers who like the miniatures, and wish to start a collection would do well to start with Tete-a-Tete.

Quince (Cyclataz × Cyclataz) is a sister seedling of Tete-a-Tete. It is sulphur yellow with usually two or three flowers to the stem and is about four to six inches tall.

Snipe (W. P. Milner × *N. cyclamineus*) is a beautiful all white cyclamineus of excellent form and substance, fair multiplier, hardy, and has long lasting flowers—a show winner.

Soltar (*N. cyclamineus* × unknown) is listed as a 6 Y-Y, but apparently is in short supply. I have never seen it. It is supposed to be very early, extremely lasting and weather proof, about twelve inches tall, and a doubtful miniature.

Stella Turk (*N. cyclamineus* × *calvicola*) is difficult to find, and I do not remember ever seeing it in a show.

Zip (Wee Bee × *N. cyclamineus*), a recent introduction by Grant Mitsch is a graceful flower with excellent substance, but stock is still limited.

Another small flower, Hummingbird (open pollinated seedling of Jetfire sibling) is a delightful early cyclamineus which may appear on the miniature list in the future. So far it has been a good increaser, and is a distinctive little flower. The small size is probably due to *N. cyclamineus* parentage as a dominant factor.

Junior Miss (Jenny × *N. jonquilla*), introduced by William G. Pannill in 1977, is one of the few all white cultivars, but is still in short supply.

Mitzy (*N. cyclamineus* × Rockery White), another all white cyclamineus, was introduced by Alec Gray in 1955 and is also hard to find. The same parents were used as in the cross for Jetage made by Gray in 1957.

Since *N. cyclamineus* likes a damp situation so do many of the hybrids, especially during the growing and blooming season. They also thrive better in soil with clay content. Most miniatures like a good, dry baking in the summer.

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The Antique Collectors' Club (5, Church Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk, England) has published (for \$29.50) a reprint of *Wood and Garden* by Gertrude Jekyll. Written in 1899, the book is subtitled "Notes and thoughts, practical and critical, of a working amateur." A review copy of the book is a new addition to the ADS library.

## MORE ON FLY CONTROL

While visiting Brian Duncan's fields in Ulster this past spring, I noticed quite a few daffodil flies around—which would have put me in a panic were they in my plantings. But Brian calmly said, "Looks like it's time to spray with dimethoate." Later he wrote, "After I sprayed and later applied the granules around the plants for longer term effect I didn't see—in fact couldn't find—a single *Narcissus* fly in the garden. I'm convinced it works." (It's called Rogor in granule form.)

When I got home, I tried to find dimethoate—and learned it is sold here as Cygon. Then I remembered that Bill Roese had once spoken at an ADS meeting about using Cygon E2. So I called Bill, and he said he uses about a half pint of Cygon E2 in three gallons of water with a sticker/spreader. He sprays three times a year, when foliage is about six inches tall, before bloom, and again after bloom. This kills any flies around as well as the grubs, and since it is systemic, kills anything that takes a bite out of the plant. He suggested wearing gloves.

As a last resort, Bill suggested getting a pair of ducks. They'll eat anything that moves!

—MLG

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A house with daffodils in it is a house lit up, whether or no the sun be shining outside. Daffodils in a green bowl—and let it snow if it will.

—A. A. MILNE, *Not That It Matters* (Dutton)

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## ACCLIMATING DOWN UNDER BULBS

BONNIE BOWERS, *Volcano, California*

In reference to Jack Ward's letter of inquiry regarding the planting of bulbs from down under, it has been my experience over a number of years that there will be some losses, no matter what method is used. I think the area in which one lives makes a difference also in how well you turn around these bulbs. When I lived in the San Francisco bay area with its milder summer temperatures there was less stress on the bulbs during the first year than where I now live, with summer temperatures often over 100 degrees. Mainly, I believe the earlier one receives bulbs, the better they do. I remember in 1979 my Phillips order was received on February 27th, and I had a bloom on Fruition (2W-W) on June 23, 1979, with another coming 9/12/79. This is one white which has done fairly well for me and is now acclimated and blooms at the normal time for this hemisphere. The sturdiest white, for me, has been Jackson's Rhapsody (2W-W), giving good increase and consistent bloom.

I have had a few bulbs which just "sat" there with no growth for a year, then put forth leaves the following spring—but mostly, if there is no top growth after a reasonable time, the bulb is gone for good.

Normally, I refrigerate down under bulbs for six to eight weeks upon receipt, then plant. At times the refrigeration period has been extended due to lack of time. One time I tried holding in the fridge for fall planting, but found

the bulbs got pretty soft and losses were greater that year. Of course, this could have been due to other factors having nothing to do with refrigeration.

In 1980 I refrigerated orders from Jackson, Hancock, and Ellimata, but with the bulbs from David Bell I followed his catalog directions and planted immediately upon receipt. These were put in an area that gets some shade during the day from nearby pine trees, so I hoped the soil would not get as hot through the summer as the rest of the open planting area. I also put a good layer of mulch over these bulbs for added protection. The other orders were planted, as usual, after a refrigeration period, and it may be coincidence, but the Bell order did turn out to have the largest percentage of loss.

The Hancock order came in first on 3/21/80, Jackson on 3/31/80, Ellimata on 4/21/80 and the Bell order after that, but I failed to note the arrival date. Losses were as follows:

	<u>Bulbs Received</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Percentage Lost</u>
Ellimata	52	7	13.4%
Jackson	37	1	2. %
Hancock	24	1	4. %
Bell	21	3	14.28%

It will be noted that the greater percentage of loss seemed to be in the two orders received last, Bell & Ellimata.

Another thing which should be noted is virus. Four of the Hancock and five of the Ellimata things are showing virus, so will be rogued. I have noticed that a number of bulbs from down under sources turn out to be virused. Possibly the stress of turning them around brings this out where they may not have shown symptoms in the home garden.

As might be expected, the greatest losses (nearly half) were in the whites.

Of course, the fact that I usually order more pinks and whites than other colors probably should be considered, too.

Very few of the 1980 bulbs bloomed in 1981, except for the Jackson things, but most are (or will) do so this year.

Of the 20 seedlings ordered, only two failed to bloom, the others had from two to four blooms each. I must comment here on how pleased I am with the quality of the seedlings sent out by Jackson—many I feel are certainly worthy of introduction. I only wish these could come in with the hybridizer's number on them so they could appear in our shows and receive attention I think they deserve. I give them my own garden number on receipt because I do use them in hybridizing, but these are such choice plants that I'm sure others will be using them too and it certainly would be desirable to have them better identified.

I started my down under collection of bulbs in 1973 with an order to Jackson, and since that time have ordered from others, but the overall performance and quality of the Jackson things make them my favorites—and that includes bulbs from England, Ireland and the U.S. as well.

This year, due to an extremely late winter, I plan on getting the down under bulbs in the ground as soon as they arrive. My Phillips order came in on 3/10 and the Bell order on 3/23. These were planted on 3/25, just ahead of a stormfront which dumped about three feet of snow on my hill. My Hancock order arrived 4/7 and will be planted as soon as the current rain and wind-storm has left the area. I still have my Jackson and Longaray orders to come in. If this cold trend continues I think they will be just as well off in the ground as with the refrigerator treatment.

Needless to say this freak weather (worst in 40 years according to our local paper) hitting right in the middle of bloom season, makes for a lot of broken stalks and ruined crosses.

Normally, my losses average about 10% on the Australian-New Zealand bulbs, no matter what method of planting is used. Some years are worse than others, possibly due to factors at the other end or in transit as well as weather at this end; so for me, at least, there has been no tried and true "method" to insure success. Probably some bulbs just have a better genetic constitution and can take the rigors of travel from one hemisphere to the other with no harm.

At any rate, it is hard to mourn too much over a flower you've never seen—the frustrations come from those that bloom once, become an immediate favorite, THEN expire! This happened to me with Phillips' Decree (2W-P), which I tried to reorder this year and, naturally, it was the only one on the order which he had to substitute. Probably this should tell me it doesn't increase all that well or even is having problems on home ground; but, being an optimist, I prefer to think rather that it was "sold out" due to extreme popularity, and will try again to order next year.

In conclusion, I might add that not all my bulbs are planted in the open after refrigeration—on smaller orders I plant in two-gallon black plastic pots in potting soil and keep till fall on the shady north side of the house where they are somewhat protected from summer heat. I haven't fully decided whether this method is any better than planting in open ground, since pots do heat up, even in the shade and if there is any growth it is always a problem as to how much to water.

As you can see, after nearly ten years of struggling with down under bulbs, I have very few answers and probably more questions than when I started. Still, for those that do survive, it is well worth the effort, and the Southern Hemisphere immigrants in my garden are always looked forward to each spring with much anticipation.

I am eager to read what experience other members have had in growing and hybridizing with the Australian-New Zealand cultivars, so hope you get good response to Jack Ward's letter.

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## FINGER LAKES DAFFODILS

W. J. HAMILTON, JR., *Ithaca, New York*

Ithaca lies at the southern end of Cayuga Lake, second largest of the Finger Lakes of central western New York. Steep hillsides, cut by frequent gorges, rise from these lakes. The shallow soils are mainly clay and shale, sticky when wet, cement-like when dry. Winter temperatures, with unpredictable snow cover, may have spells of minus 25. Summer is hot and frequently dry. Spring is often ephemeral, while autumn lasts long although often dangerously dry.

Of the 67 ADS members in the state, 75 percent live in suburban New York City or Long Island. We have only eight members in the central and western part of the state. We have no shows. Long ago George Lee pointed out that

less than five percent of the members exhibited in the shows and less than ten percent attended the shows. I have grown over 700 varieties over a period of 57 years. Growers from other cold areas might wish to know of our experiences.

Where do we buy our bulbs? The experienced daffodil grower will know of the specialty breeders both here and overseas, but the uninitiated usually depends on a local source for his or her bulbs. The carriage trade or the exhibitor will order from a Mitsch, Evans or some other breeder's catalogue. For every sophisticated grower who plants to show, there are hundreds who are content with a few dozen cultivars which have proven eminently satisfactory as a garden flower over a long period of time. The tyro with limited funds should be satisfied with standard cultivars, which are often available from local sources. It was Harry Tuggle, writing in the daffodil symposium for 1966-67, who stated that "the better daffodil does not necessarily mean the newest, or the most expensive, or, in contrast, the cheapest, but it means those varieties that stand above the crowd, irrespective of source, price or hybridizer."

There are often frustrations for the buyer, whatever the source. The bulb houses cajole us to order early, then frequently delay their shipments until late October or November. Frequently the bulbs are of inferior quality, are "sold out" or substitutions made in spite of contrary orders. For those who might wish to grow only a few cultivars, it would seem desirable to buy from a local source. There is an excellent farm store with many outlets throughout New England, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania which regularly carries an excellent assortment of bulbs. The advantage of buying locally is threefold. The bulbs are usually available by mid-September. Most of the daffodils are double or triple-nosed and frequently mother bulbs. They may be handled to determine firmness and condition, since the bulbs are priced singly. The price is invariably less than those listed in catalogues. Offerings in one large garden center in 1981 included Actaea, Baby Moon, Beersheba, Carlton, Cheerfulness, Cragford, Duke of Windsor, February Gold, Fortune, Geranium, Ice Follies, Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, Peeping Tom, Prof. Einstein, Scarlet Elegance, Scarlet Gem, Sempre Avanti, Spring Glory, Tete-a-Tete, Texas, Thalia and Tresamble. Not a bad selection for the beginner. All do well for us except Cragford and Thalia, which are forced. To be sure, most of us would not wish to be restricted to such a source for our bulbs. The offerings vary from year to year, and include some miniatures that generally are not hardy, and usually do not survive the first winter in the open ground.

I would be remiss if credit were not given those long established growers who have provided good stock and service over the years. They remain in business for this very reason. Advertisers in the *Daffodil Journal* have not failed us, and the hobbyist continues to be dependent on the smaller grower for the new cultivars and exhibition bulbs.

Digging is delayed until early August, when the foliage on the majority of our bulbs has ripened. It is my contention that daffodils do best when they are kept in their natural habitat—the ground. The time comes when crowding and the resultant inferior bloom necessitates the digging and separation of clumps. These are lifted with a spading fork, gently teased apart and some of the bulbs immediately replanted in the same site. The remainder go into a previously prepared area. All are well-watered following replanting. As often happens, if the bulbs have been down for several years, the excess are harvested, which may be given to friends or public plantings. If care is given to disturb the rooted bulbs as little as possible, they soon take hold and are

none the worse for such seemingly cavalier treatment. Not all will agree to such practice. Harold King (ADS 1962 *Yearbook*) reported on the pros and cons of bulbs replanted immediately and bulbs stored through the summer. His conclusions were that stored bulbs fared better. Laura Roennfeldt (ADS 1969 *Journal*) feels otherwise, giving cogent reasons why she has been successful in replanting newly dug bulbs following the separation of a clump. If we must delay planting, we store bulbs in a cool garage, hung in onion sacks or containers made of inch-mesh chicken wire.

When do we plant? There is a decided difference of opinion on the proper time to plant. Some growers hold that delaying planting until mid-October tends to minimize the likelihood of basal rot. Others contend that a bulb has no place out of the ground, and should be dug only when the need for division is required. I hold to this latter view, and try to get my planting completed by mid-September. Some poets appear to have some new roots at all seasons. The Experimental Horticulture Station at Rosewarne, England, has carried out extensive research in daffodil culture. Their studies on daffodil replanting showed that in the second year of flowering, the increase in the number of flowers from bulbs planted on August 12 was 223 percent, whereas that for bulbs planted on November 4 was 82 percent. Presumably a great deal depends on the climate and conditions under which we plant our bulbs, but it does appear desirable to get our bulbs in the ground just as early as possible in our northern gardens.

We grow our bulbs in groups of three to five, planted at a depth to allow four inches of soil above the neck of the bulb. One must exercise judgment in determining the depth of planting, for obviously a smaller bulb requires shallower planting than a large one. Generally speaking, the shallower the planting, the more rapid the increase in size of the bulb. Thus when naturalizing a planting, where the bulbs will be down for many years, deep planting is in order. We tell our friends to dig a dollar hole for a ten-cent bulb. A bulb planter is useless in our soil. In preparing our planting holes, we find a wheelbarrow is useful for mixing the soil for the plantings. The clay is broken up with the back of a shovel, damp peat moss and compost or rotted sawdust added. If the sawdust is fairly well rotted, it needs no nitrogenous additive and is an excellent soil conditioner. Once the hole is dug, several pailfuls of water are poured into the hole. The soil mix is placed in the hole after the water has drained off, the bulbs planted and the site filled nearly to the top of the hole. Without moistening the hole, root growth will be delayed. Daffodils profit from a plentiful supply of water, particularly in the fall and in the blooming season. If you would have superior bloom, do not spare the hose. Do not add sand to clay in the belief that it will lighten the soil. Years ago we learnt that sand added to our heavy clay soils equaled cement. Fertilizer is used sparingly and added to the soil mix that is to go below the bulbs. To each barrow load of soil (bushel-and-a-half capacity) a scant cupful of 20 percent superphosphate is added and thoroughly mixed into the soil. A good potato fertilizer (5-10-5) is satisfactory. Be sparing of nitrogen. Potash is an excellent additive to all bulb plantings. Wood ashes spread over the plantings will provide this need.

We have a good source of white pine needles, which provides an excellent mulch. It helps to keep the soil cool in warm weather, reduces weed growth and reduces splattering on the flowers. A fairly heavy mulch tends to discourage the bulb fly, by covering cracks and soil openings around the stems at ground level.

MRS JAMES W RILEY JR  
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